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EDITED BY

GEORGE LAURENCE GOMME, F.S.A.

ENGLISH TOPOGRAPHY, PART III.

(DERBYSHIRE—DORSETSHIRE.)

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PREFACE.

THIS volume deals with the three counties of Derbyshire, Devonshire and Dorsetshire, each of them, as it happens, being very fully represented in the old *Gentleman's Magazine.* The contributions present several points of great interest to the modern inquirer, and which are not to be found in other publications, and it is one of the pleasures of editing this portion of the "Library" to find hidden away so many phases of local history which are now of more than local importance.

Beyond the ordinary local information as to family history, Church history, and topographical details—fully represented in this volume, as they were in the previous volumes—there are some notes upon subjects which are out of the general run. Thus the interesting though meagre notes of local almshouses at Dorchester, Chesterfield, Tavistock, Totnes, Sherborne and Beminster bring into prominence the old system of supporting the poor and indigent, which has died out before the inroads of modern officialism, and which some of us think is better than the modern system. The cry of the poor is bitter enough always, but it is made more bitter than is necessary by the real and natural hatred they have of the workhouse system and its hideous rigidity. These almshouses are scattered about over the country, and they are memorials of a time when the poor were considered to have rights as citizens of an empire in the building up of which they have had a share.

Another subject interesting to modern times is that of fairs, and the recent report of the Markets Commission explains how closely connected are our modern requirements to the ancient methods of

meeting the necessities of the people. The fairs and markets of South Zeal, Modbury, Honiton, Plympton St. Maurice and Tavistock, have only a very few notes given to them in the several communications, but they are very useful as indicating the activity in the past in respect of this important machinery for distribution of food supplies. The old municipal rights of South Zeal, Plympton St. Maurice and other places are described with some curious details.

Of customs and manners that are gone, never to be revived—the expression of people's thoughts by their action—we have the curious description of games played at Buxton, the custom of separating the sexes at church at Bilstone, the bell-ringing customs at Dorchester, for the labourers to begin their daily work, at sundown, and at funerals; and the custom of holding schools in belfries, as at Milton Abbas. It is mentioned, in connection with this place (p. 300), that the villein tenants could not send their children to school without the consent of their lords, a state of things not generally connected with manorial rights. The curious mention of a brief for the renovation of the Theatre Royal, in 1673, which occurs at Symondsbury, is an interesting bit of dramatic history which is worth while pursuing somewhat further, and perhaps some of our great authorities on this subject —Mr. Joseph Knight, Mr. H. B. Wheatley, or Mr. T. F. Ordish— may take up the fact and see how it influences their researches.

County boundaries are not unchangeable, as may be seen by the adjustment between Dorsetshire and Devonshire, mentioned on page 248. The Church Barn, at Hardwick, mentioned on page 237, is of interest just now, when the destruction quite recently of the last one extant has revived interest in this subject.

The communications upon the Revolution House at Whittington are of great historical interest, as they describe the condition and traditions of the place in a way that could not be attempted now. These historical monuments are vanishing gradually from our villages and towns; but it should not be allowed, so long as English people take interest in a history which is second to that of no nation.

It is pleasing to think that the suggestion made in the preface to the previous volume, that a catalogue of benefactions recorded on church monuments should be undertaken, has found some considerable response, thanks to the way in which some of the literary journals took it up, particularly the *Athenæum* and the *Antiquary*. At the meeting of the congress of archæological societies, in July last, I brought forward a motion urging upon the local societies to see to this subject,

and it was carried, with some hope that good progress might be made in the near future with this important subject. Many charities have been allowed to lapse, and are recorded only on their church tablets, and the Charity Commissioners now pursuing their inquiries over the kingdom do not go outside the charities that now exist.

The contributions are very unequal in length. Plymouth is dismissed with a paragraph. But the smaller places are perhaps what we wanted to know more about. Mr. Barnes, the Dorset poet, and Mrs. Bray, the correspondent of Southey, both contributed for their respective counties. Not long before her death I had the pleasure of seeing Mrs. Bray, and I well remember the vigour with which she then spoke of her beloved Devonshire home. Place-names are proverbially dangerous ground to venture far upon, but it is worth notice that London place-names are repeated in Devonshire four times.

Mr. F. A. Milne has read all the sheets and compiled the two Indexes. The index of personal names is longer than either of the two previous ones, thus showing that local family matters have been increasingly attended to with reference to these three counties.

G. L. Gomme.

Barnes Common,
November, 1892.

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Derbyshire.

DERBYSHIRE.

[1816, *Part II., pp.* 602-604; 1819, *Part II., pp.* 12-15; 105-109.]

Ancient State and Remains.

British Inhabitants.—Coritani.

Roman Province.—Flavia Cæsariensis. *Stations.*—Derventio, Little Chester; Ad Trivonam, Berry Farm; Aquæ, Buxton; Lutudarum, Chesterfield.

Saxon Heptarchy.—Mercia.

Antiquities.—Arbor Low and Nine Ladies, Druidical circles; Hirst Stones, Druidical monument; Staden Low earthwork; Robin Hood's Mark, and the Turning-stone, near Ashover; Beauchief and Dale Abbeys; All Saints', Derby (tower 180 feet high); Repton (spire 198 feet), Chesterfield (twisted spire 230 feet), and Wirksworth Churches; Castleton or Peak, Codnor, Mackworth, and Bolsover Castles; Haddon Hall; South Wingfield Manor House; British, Cair's Work, or Carle's Work, rude fortification on Hathersage Moor; Roman, Melandra Castle camp, altar at Haddon Hall, inscribed pigs of lead found near Matlock; Melbourne, Sandiacre and Steetley Churches; Ashover leaden font; Bakewell and Eyam Crosses; Anchor Church, excavation in a rock near Foremark; Barlborough and Hardwick Halls.

The lead mines of this county were worked by the Romans.

Repton was the burial-place of the Mercian Kings Merewala and Ethelbald.

St. Alkmund's Church, Derby, contains the remains of Alkmund, son of Alured, King of Northumberland.

Present State and Appearance.

Rivers.—Trent, Derwent, Dove, Wye, Errewash, Rother, Henmore, Mease, Amber, Ashop, Barbrook, Burbadge, Crawley, Eccles-

burn, Ethrow, Goyte, Gunno, Headford, Ibber, Idle, Lathkill or Larkill, Martin Brook, Mersey, Morledge, Now, Schoo.

Inland Navigation.—Trent and Mersey, Chesterfield, Errewash, Peak Forest, Cromford, Ashby de la Zouch, and Derby Canals; Trent and Derwent Rivers; Nutbrook Canal. On the Cromford Canal is a tunnel (at Butterley) 2,978 yards long, an aqueduct bridge over the Amber 200 yards long and 50 feet high, and another of the same length, and 30 feet high, over the Derwent; on Peak Forest Canal is an inclined plane of 512 yards, and an aquaduct bridge over the Mersey 100 feet high, having three arches, each of 60 feet span.

Eminences and Views.—Axedge, 1,751 feet; Holme Moss or Kinder Scout, in the high Peak, 1,859 feet; Brassington Moor, Alport, near Wirksworth, and Crich Cliff, in the low Peak; Thorp Cloud; Charlesworth Nick; Robin Hood's Chair, Win Hill; Riber Hill, and Heights of Abraham, Matlock; Lord's Seat, 1,751 feet; Hathersage, 1,377 feet; Alport Heights, 980 feet; the High Tor in Matlock Dale rises almost perpendicularly from the river above 300 feet; Bolsover Castle; Chatsworth hunting town.

Natural Curiosities.—Buxton, Matlock, Kedleston, Quarndon and Heage medicinal waters; scenery of Matlock, Dove Dale, Middleton, and Monsal Dales; Bradwell crystallized cavern; ebbing and flowing well; Mam Tor, or the Shivering Mountain; Elden Hole, Poole's Hole, Castleton Cavern, Marvel Stones, Router Rocks; Bradley, Graned, and Chee Tors; Petrifying spring, Cumberland, Smedley, and Rutland Caverns, Matlock; group of grit-stone rocks called Robin Hood's Stride, or Mock Beggar's Hall, on Stanton Moor; Reynard's Hall, a cave in Dovedale. Elden Hole was ascertained by John Lloyd, Esq., to be a shaft of 62 yards deep, at the bottom of which are two caverns, as described by him in "Philosophical Transactions," vol. lxi. Tepid springs, Buxton 82°, Matlock 68°, Stony Middleton 63°, Bakewell 60°, Brough near Hope, Cromford, and Stoke. Sulphureous, at Agnes and Mudge meadows, Bakewell, Bradwell, Brassington, Cowley near Dronfield, Kedleston, Kniveton, Millington Green near Kirk Ireton, Shottle in Duffield, Shuttlewood near Bolsover, West Hallam, Whittington, and near Wirksworth. Chalybeate, most celebrated at Ashover, Birley in Eckington, Bradley, Buxton, Chesterfield, two at Duffield, Eccleston in Youlgrave, Heage, Hope near Kedleston, Matlock, Morley Park, Quarndon, Shottle, Stanley, Tibshelf, and Whittington. Saline, at Donisthorpe, and between Hope and Bradwell. Ebbing and flowing, at Barmoor and Tideswell. At Overton, seat of Sir Joseph Banks, are two gooseberry-trees, of the smooth red or Warrington sort, remarkably good bearers; the extreme length of one, measured in 1816, was 54 feet 7 inches; the other, which was planted in 1794, measured in 1808, 41 feet 5 inches. At Bretby,

the Earl of Chesterfield's, is a cedar of Lebanon 13 feet 9 inches in circumference, planted in February, 1676-77, and is probably the oldest tree of its kind in this kingdom. The Enfield cedar was planted nearly at the same time; those in the Physic Garden at Chelsea in 1683.

Public Edifices.—Ashbourne School, founded in 1585. Burton-upon-Trent Bridge will be noticed in the Compendium of Staffordshire. Buxton baths; crescent built by the late Duke of Devonshire in 1785 and 1786; stables, a circular area of 60 yards internal diameter, with coach-houses for 60 carriages. Cavendish Bridge, near Wilne, built by the Cavendish family about 1750. Chesterfield Town Hall, erected 1790; architect, Carr. Derby Almshouse, built by Elizabeth Countess of Shrewsbury, 1599; county hall erected in 1659; All Saints' Church, architect Gibbs, finished 1725; Guildhall, 1731; county gaol, 1756; theatre, 1773; assembly rooms, 1774; ordnance depot, Wyatt architect, completed 1805; infirmary, William Strutt, Esq., architect, cost £30,000, opened 1810; schools. Etwall Hospital. Harrington Bridge at Sawley, begun 1786, finished 1790. Measham Town Hall. Ravenstone Hospital, founded by Rebecca Wilkinson, 1712. Repton School. Swarkston Bridge, span over the river 138 yards, but its whole length over the low grounds 1,304 yards.

Seats.—Chatsworth and Hardwick Hall, Duke of Devonshire, lord-lieutenant of the county; Alfreton, Rev. H. C. Morewood; Aldercar, Rev. John Smith; Alderwaslee Hall, Francis Hurt, Esq.; Allestrey, J. C. Girardot, Esq.; Ashbourne Hall, Sir Brooke Boothby, Bart.; Aston, Rev. Charles Holden; Bank Hall, Samuel Frith, Esq.; Barlborough, C. H. Rodes, Esq.; Barrow, John Beaumont, Esq.; Barton Blount, Francis Bradshaw, Esq.; Beauchief Abbey, P. P. Burnell, Esq.; Bolsover, Duke of Portland; Bradley, Godfrey Meynell, Esq.; Breadsall Priory, Mrs. Darwin; Bretby Park, Earl of Chesterfield; Bridge End, J. B. Strutt, Esq.; Calke Abbey, Sir Henry Harpur Crewe, Bart.; Castle Field, John Burrow, Esq.; Catton, Eusebius Horton, Esq.; Chaddesden, Sir Robert Mead Wilmot, Bart.; Croxall, late Thomas Prinsep, Esq.; Darley, Walter Evans, Esq.; Darley Hall, Robert Holden, Esq.; Doveridge House, Lord Waterpark; Drakelow, Sir Roger Gresley, Bart.; Duffield, John Balguy, Esq.; Dunston Hall, Mrs. Smith; Durant Hall, A. B. Slater, Esq.; Ednaston Lodge, Hon. W. Shirley; Egginton, Sir Henry Every, Bart.; Elvaston, Earl of Harrington; Etwall, William Cotton, Esq.; Ford, Mrs. Holland; Foremark, Sir Francis Burdett, Bart.; Foston, Charles Broadhurst, Esq.; Glapwell, Thomas Hallowes, Esq.; Glossop Hall, Duke of Norfolk; Haddon Hall, Duke of Rutland; Hasland, Thomas Lucas, Esq.; Hassop, Earl Newburgh; Hathersage, A. A. Shuttleworth, Esq.; Highfield, V. H. Eyre, Esq.; Hilcote Hall, John Wilkinson, Esq.; Holme Hall,

Robert Birch, Esq.; Holt House, George Mower, Esq.; Hopton Hall, Philip Gell, Esq.; Hopwell, Thomas Pares, Esq.; Ingleby, R. C. Greaves, Esq.; Kedleston, Lord Scarsdale; Langley Park, Godfrey Meynell, Esq.; Leam, M. M. Middleton, Esq.; Little Longsdon, James Longsdon, Esq.; Little Over, Bache Heathcote, Esq.; Locko, William Drury Lowe, Esq.; Longford Hall, Edward Coke, Esq.; Markeaton, Mrs. Mundy; Mearsbrook, Samuel Shore, Esq.; Measham Field, Edward Abney, Esq.; Melbourne, Lord Melbourne; Mellor, Samuel Oldknow, Esq.; Millford, G. H. Strutt, Esq.; Newton Solney, Abraham Hoskins, Esq.; Norton Hall, Samuel Shore, jun., Esq.; Norton House, John Read, Esq.; Oaks, The, Sir W. C. Bagshaw, Knight; Ogstone, William Turbutt, Esq.; Osmaston, Sir Robert Wilmot, Bart.; Overton Hall, Sir Joseph Banks, Bart., P.R.S.; Pastures, The, late John Peel, Esq.; Radborne, E. S. C. Pole, Esq.; Renishaw. Sir George Sitwell, Bart.; Risley, Rev. John H. Hall; Romeley, Rev. Thomas Hill; Shardelow, Leonard Fosbrooke, Esq.; Shipley Hall, Edw. Miller Mundy, Esq.; Smalley, John Radford, Esq.; Stainsby, E. S. Sitwell, Esq.; Stanton Hall, Bache Thornhill, Esq.; Stanton Woodhouse, Duke of Rutland; Stoke Hall, Hon. John Simpson; Stretton, Sir Wm. Cave Browne, Bart.; Stubbings, C. D. Gladwin, Esq.; Sudbury, Lord Vernon; Sutton, Marquis of Ormond; Swarkston, Sir Henry Crewe, Bart.; Tapton Grove, Avery Jebb, Esq.; Thurlston, Samuel Fox, Esq.; Tissington, Sir Henry Fitzherbert, Bart.; Tupton, W. A. Lord, Esq.; Walton, Colonel Disbrowe; Walton Lodge, Joshua Jebb, Esq.; Wheat Hills, Richard Bateman, Esq.; Willersley Castle, Richard Arkwright, Esq.; Winfield, South, Winfield Halton, Esq.; Wingerworth Hall, Sir Thos. Windsor Hunloke, Bart.; Wirksworth Gatehouse, Philip Gell, Esq.

Produce.—Lead, iron, calamine, coal, limestone, marble, gypsum, fluor-spar, rotten stone, porcelain, pipe and potter's clay, butter, wheat, barley, chamomile, freestone, grindstones, whetstones, manganese, crystals called Buxton diamonds, cheese, valerian, elicampane.

Manufactures.—Stockings, calicoes, thread, silk, iron, spar ornaments, malt, porcelain, ale, worsted, blankets, linen, leather, shoes, hats, agricultural tools, chains, nails, needles, spurs and bridle-bits. The first successful attempt to establish the manufacture of calicoes in this kingdom was made at Derby by Mr. Jedediah Strutt, Mr. (afterwards Sir Richard) Arkwright, and Mr. Samuel Need. The machine for making ribbed stockings was invented by Mr. Jedediah Strutt about the year 1755. The porcelain manufactory was established at Derby by Mr. Duesbury about 1750. The marble works near Bakewell were first established by Mr. Henry Watson, who first formed into ornaments the fluor-spar or Blue John of this county. The first vase made of it (in 1743) is preserved in the museum of his nephew, Mr. White Watson, of Bakewell.

History.

A.D. 873, Repton was the head winter-quarters of the Danes.

A.D. 918, Derby taken from the Danes by Ethelfleda by storm.

A.D. 942, Derby (which with the towns of Leicester, Lincoln, Stamford and Nottingham, had been restored to the Danes, thence denominated Fif Burghers) taken by Edmund.

A.D. 1215, Bolsover and Peak Castles, taken from the Barons in arms against King John by William de Ferrars, Earl of Derby.

A.D. 1261, at Chesterfield, Robert Ferrars, last Earl of Derby, defeated by Henry, son of the King of the Romans.

A.D. From 1568 to 1584, at Wingfield, Chatsworth, Buxton and Hardwick, Mary Queen of Scots confined under the custody of the Earl of Shrewsbury. The Shrievalty of this county disjoined from that of Nottinghamshire.

A.D. 1642, August, Charles I. marched to Derby, after raising his standard at Nottingham against the Parliamentarians. November, Royalists driven from Wirksworth and the Peak by Sir John Gell, who shortly afterwards took Bretby House, which had been fortified by its owner, the Earl of Chesterfield, for the king.

A.D. 1643, January, at Swarkston Bridge, Royalists under Colonel Hastings driven from their entrenchments, and Swarkston House, Sir John Harpur's, taken by Sir John Gell. April, Sutton House, defended by its owner Lord Deincourt for the king, taken by Colonel Thomas Gell, brother of Sir John. May, near Chesterfield, Parliamentarians defeated by the Earl (afterwards Duke) of Newcastle. December, South Winfield manor-house garrisoned by the Parliamentarians, after three days' siege, stormed by the Earl (afterwards Duke) of Newcastle.

A.D. 1644, February, near Ashbourne, Royalists defeated, and 170 taken prisoners by the Parliamentarians. March, on Egginton Heath, Royalists defeated by a detachment from Sir John Gell's army, commanded by Major Molanus and Captain Rhodes. August 20th, South Winfield manor-house, after a siege of above a month by the Parliamentarians under the Earl of Denbigh, Lord Grey of Groby, and Sir John Gell (during which the Royalist Governor, Colonel Dalby, was slain, and Colonel Hastings repulsed in an effort to relieve it), surrendered by Sir John Fitzherbert to Sir John Gell. August, Staveley House and Bolsover Castle taken by the Parliamentarians under Major-General Crawford.

A.D. 1645, August, at Sudbury and at Ashbourne, Sir John Gell defeated in skirmishes with Charles I. September and October, Chatsworth under its Royalist Governor, Colonel Shalcross, successively defended against Colonel Molanus and the Parliamentarians.

A.D. 1659, at Derby an insurrection against Richard Cromwell.

A.D. 1688, at Whittington, the Duke of Devonshire, the Earl of Danby (afterwards Duke of Leeds), Sir John D'Arcy, and others, met and concerted the Revolution; solemnly commemorated in 1788, and a sermon preached by the venerable Dr. Pegge.

A.D. 1745, December 4th, Prince Charles Edward Stuart, with his army, about 7,100 men, entered Derby, their nearest approach to London; halted on the 5th; commenced their retreat towards Scotland on the 6th.

A.D. 1817, at South Winfield, June 9th, commenced a miserable insurrection to overthrow the constitution. The insurgents proceeded towards Nottingham, but near that town were speedily dispersed by the military, and three of the ringleaders, Jeremiah Brandreth, William Turner, and Isaac Ludlam, were executed at Derby, November 7th.

Biography.

Agard, Arthur, antiquary, Foston, 1540.

Ashburne, Thomas, opponent of Wickliffe, Ashbourne (flourished 1382).

Babington, Anthony, conspirator against Elizabeth, Dethick (executed 1586).

Bage, Edward, novelist, Darley, 1728.

Bagshaw, William, Nonconformist divine and author, Litton, 1628.

Blackwall, Anthony, schoolmaster, 1674.

Bott, Thomas, divine, Derby, 1688.

Brindley, James, canal engineer, Tunsted, 1716.

Buxton, Jedediah, calculator, Elmeton, 1707.

Cockain, Sir Aston, poet, Ashbourne, 1606.

Coke, George, Bishop of Hereford, Trusley (died about 1650).

Coke, Sir John, Secretary of State, Trusley (died 1644).

Curson, Roger, cardinal, Pope's legate, Croxall, temp. Henry III.

Denman, Thomas, physician and accoucheur, Bakewell, 1733.

Farneworth, Ellis, translator, Bonteshall, about 1710.

Fitzherbert, Sir Anthony, judge, author of "De Natura Brevium," Norbury, about 1470.

Fitzherbert, Nicholas, biographer of Cardinal Allen, Norbury (drowned 1612).

Fitzherbert, Thomas, Jesuit, polemic writer, Norbury, died 1640.

Flamsteed, John, astronomer, Derby, 1646.

Gray, William, Bishop of Ely, Lord Treasurer, Codnor (died 1478).

Halifax, Samuel, Bishop of St. Asaph, Chesterfield, 1730.

Hardwick, Elizabeth, Countess of Shrewsbury, foundress of Chatsworth and Hardwick, Hardwick, 1520.

Hierom, John, Nonconformist divine and author, Stapenhill, 1608.

Hutton, William, antiquarian tourist, Derby, 1723.

Linacre, Thomas, founder of College of Physicians, Derby, 1460.

Oldfield, John, Nonconformist divine and author, near Chesterfield, 1627.

Pegge, Samuel, antiquary, Chesterfield, 1704.

Pursglove, Robert, suffragan Bishop of Hull, Tideswell (1579).

Richardson, Samuel, novelist, 1689.

Seward, Anna, poet, Eyam, 1747.

Shaw, Samuel, Nonconformist divine and author, Repton, 1635.

Stanhope, George, Dean of Canterbury, theologian, Hartshorn, 1660.

Stathom, John, author of "Abridgment of the Laws," temp. Henry VI.

Strutt, Jedediah, mechanist, Normanton, 1726.

Swetman, Thomas, Nonconformist divine and author, Derby.

Tallents, Francis, divine, author of "Chronological Tables," Pelsley, 1619.

Waste, Joan, blind woman, martyr, Derby, burnt 1555.

Willoughby, Sir Hugh, naval discoverer, Risley, 16th century.

Woodward, John, physician and naturalist, 1665.

Wood, John, Nonconformist divine and author, Chesterfield (died 1690).

Wright, Joseph, landscape painter, Derby, 1734.

Eminent Natives.

Abney, Sir Thomas, Lord Mayor, one of the founders of Bank of England, Willesley, 1639.

Ashe, John, dissenting divine, biographer of Bagshaw's "Apostle of the Peak," Metcalf.

Ashton, Charles, master of Jesus College, Cambridge, scholar, Bradway, 1665.

Bancroft, Thomas, satiric and epigrammatic poet, Swarkston.

Billingsley, John, presbyterian divine, author on Popery and Schism, Chesterfield.

Blount, Sir Walter, standard-bearer to Henry IV., Barton Blount (slain at Shrewsbury, 1403).

Blount, Walter, Lord Mountjoy, K.G., High Treasurer to Edward IV., Barton Blount.

Blythe, Geoffry, Bishop of Lichfield and Coventry, Norton (died 1534).

Blythe, John, Bishop of Salisbury, Norton (died 1500).
Bothe, John, Bishop of Exeter, Sawley.
Bothe, Lawrence, Archbishop of York, Sawley.
Bourne, Samuel, dissenting divine and author, Derby, 1647.
Butler, William, physician, 1726.
Cavendish, William, Duke of Newcastle, loyal hero, author on horsemanship, Bolsover, 1593.
Cockaine, Sir John, Chief Baron to Henry IV., Ashbourne.
Cockaine, Sir Thomas, author on hunting, Ashbourne (died 1592).
Croshawe, Richard, benefactor, Derby (died 1625).
Dethick, Sir Gilbert, Garter King at Arms to Edward VI., Derby.
Dethick, Sir William, Garter King at Arms to Elizabeth, Derby.
Fitzherbert, Sir William, first bart., author on revenue laws, Tissington.
Gell, Anthony, founder of school and almshouse, Wirksworth (died 1583).
Gell, Sir John, Parliamentarian general, Wirksworth (died 1671).
Harrison, Ralph, dissenter, author of "Sacred Harmony," Chinley (died 1810).
Horne, William Andrew, murderer, hanged 1759, Butterley, 1685.
Johnson, Christopher, physician, Kiddersley (flor. 16 cent.).
Johnson, Michael, bookseller, father of Dr. Samuel Johnson, Crebley, 1656.
Kniveton, Saintloc, antiquary.
Mundy, Francis Noel Clarke, poet of "Needwood Forest," Markeaton.
Newton, William, carpenter, poet, Wardlow, 1755.
Oldfield, Joshua, presbyterian divine and author, Carsington, 1656.
Outram, William, divine and scholar, author on sacrifices, 1625.
Port, Sir John, founder of Repton School, Etwall.
Robinson, Benjamin, presbyterian divine, author on the Trinity, Derby, 1666.
Rodes, Francis, judge, Stavely, Woodthorpe (flor. 1585).
Shirley, Sir Hugh, warrior, Shirley (slain at Shrewsbury).
Shirley, Sir Ralph, warrior at Agincourt, Shirley.
Taylor, Martha, fasting damsel, Over Haddon (died 1684).
Vernon, Sir George, hospitable and munificent King of the Peak, Haddon (died 1565).
Vernon, Sir Henry, Governor to Prince Arthur, Haddon (flor. temp. Henry VII.).
Vernon, Sir Richard, Speaker to Parliament at Leicester in 1425, Haddon.

Vernon, Sir Richard, the last person who held the high office of Constable of England for life, Haddon.

Watson, Henry, first manufacturer of ornaments of fluor-spar, Bakewell, 1714.

Wilmot, Sir Edward, physician to George II. and George III., first bart., Chaddesden, 1693.

Wilmot, Sir John Eardley, Chief Justice of Common Pleas, Ormaston (died 1792).

Miscellaneous Remarks.

At Allen Hill, in Matlock parish, died Mr. Adam Wolley, 1657, aged 99, and his wife Grace, 1669, aged 110. They lived together in marriage 76 years.

In Ashbourne Church, besides the beautiful monument, by Banks, in memory of Penelope, daughter of Sir Brooke Boothby, 1791, are many memorials of the ancient family of Cockayne, and the tomb of Dean Langton, who was killed by his horse falling over a precipice at Dovedale, 1761. In this town resided and died in 1788 Dr. John Taylor, the friend of Dr. Johnson.

In Ashford Chapel is a tablet to the memory of Henry Watson, who first formed into ornaments the fluor-spar of this county, and died 1786.

In Bakewell Church is a curious ancient monument of Sir Godfrey Foljambe, 1376, and Avena his wife, 1383, with several memorials of the Vernons and Manners, and the tomb of Sir Thomas Windesley, mortally wounded at the battle of Shrewsbury fighting for Henry IV.

Belper Unitarian meeting-house is under the ministry of D. P. Davies, one of the historians of this county.

At Bolsover, in 1633, Charles I. and his Queen, on their way to Scotland, were splendidly entertained by the brave and loyal William Cavendish, Earl (afterwards Marquis and Duke) of Newcastle, the expense of one dinner only being £4,000. The poetry and speeches on the occasion were composed by Ben Jonson. In the church, among several memorials of the Cavendishes, are the monuments of Sir Charles Cavendish, who founded Bolsover Castle in 1613, 1617; Huntingdon Smithson, the architect of the castle, 1648; and the costly tomb of Henry, second Duke of Newcastle, 1691.

Bradshaw Hall was the residence of the Regicide President.

Breadsall was the vicarage of the nonconformist, John Hierom, biblical critic, abridger of Poole's "Synopsis," who died at Loscoe and was buried at Heanor, 1682. In the church is the monument of Erasmus Darwin, physician, philosopher and poet, who resided at Breadsall Priory, and died there in 1802.

At Bretby, in 1639, on Twelfth Day, was performed before Philip,

first Earl of Chesterfield, and his second countess, a masque, written for the occasion by Sir Aston Cockayne.

Carsington was the rectory of the nonconformist, John Oldfield, author on the Righteousness of the Scribes and Pharisees, and of Ellis Farneworth, translator of Davila and Machiavel.

In Chaddesden Chapel is a cenotaph for its native, Sir Edward Wilmot, physician to George II. and George III.

Chatsworth south front, 190 feet long, was begun April 12th, 1687, William Talman architect. Of this and the west front, 172 feet long, there are many engravings with plans in Campbell's "Vitruvius Britannicus." The library, which contains a very valuable collection of books, is 92 feet, the picture-gallery nearly 100 feet long. The old gardens, laid out by George London, were begun in 1688. The waterworks, constructed by Monsieur Guillet, a Frenchman, in 1690, exhibit an almost unique specimen of what once was considered a necessary appendage to every noble mansion. The great fountain throws the water 90 feet high. Another waterwork, in the shape of a tree composed of copper, has been much noticed. Marshall Tallard, who was taken prisoner at Blenheim, in 1704, and remained seven years in this kingdom, having been nobly entertained by the Duke of Devonshire at this place, on taking his leave said, "My lord, when I come hereafter to compute the time of my captivity in England, I shall leave out the day of my visit at Chatsworth."

Chesterfield was the vicarage of the nonconformist, John Billingsley, writer against the Quakers, whose son of the same name, author on Popery and Schism, was minister of the Presbyterian meeting in this town. Samuel Jebb, learned physician, editor of Justin, died here in 1772.

At Compton resided and died Thomas Bedford, nonjuror, editor of Simeon Dunelmensis, and author of "The Historical Catechism." He was buried at Ashbourne, 1773.

At Cromford is a cotton mill, the machinery of which is described by Darwin in his "Botanic Garden."

At Derby, Thomas Parker, first Earl of Macclesfield, Lord Chancellor, practised for many years as an attorney.—John Whitehurst, the mechanic and philosopher, lived here forty years.—Wright the painter, was born, lived and died here.—Here, too, Dr. Erasmus Darwin spent the last twenty-one years of his life, and composed the major part of his works. In All Saints' Church, excepting the first Earl, all the Earls and Dukes of Devonshire of the Cavendish family, with most of the junior branches, were interred. The most remarkable monuments are those of Elizabeth, Countess of Shrewsbury, builder of Chatsworth, Hardwick and Oldcotes, 1608; William, second Earl of Devonshire (by Marshall), 1628, with Christian, his Countess, patroness of learned men, and whose life was written by Pomfret, 1675; Caroline, Countess of Bessborough, daughter of William, Duke of

Devonshire (by Rysbrach), 1760, and her husband, William, Earl of Bessborough (by Nollekens), 1763. In the vault lie the remains of the brave and loyal Compton, Earl of Northampton, slain at Hopton Heath, near Stafford, 1643; Colonel Charles Cavendish, slain at Gainsborough in the same cause, 1643; and Henry Cavendish, chemist and pneumatic philosopher, 1810. In this church are also the monuments of Richard Croshaw, a native, who left £4,000 for charitable use, and died of the plague, taken whilst administering to the relief of the sick poor, 1625; Thomas Chamber, merchant (by Roubiliac), 1726; Dr. Michael Hutchinson, the curate who obtained £3,249 subscription for rebuilding the church, 1730. Here, too, was interred Mr. John Lombe, who established the first silk mill in England in this town and died here 1722.—In St. Alkmund's was buried, in 1592, Thomas Ball, aged 110. Its first vicar was Henry Cantrell, author on the baptism of Charles I.—George Fox, founder of the Society of Friends, was imprisoned for nearly a year in this town, and here, in 1650, according to his journal, they first obtained the appellation by which they are now generally known. "Justice Bennet, of Derby," says he, "was the first that called us Quakers, because I bid him tremble at the word of the Lord."—Ferdinando Shaw, author of the life of his wife, was minister of the Presbyterian Meeting-house, and after the congregation became Unitarians James Pilkington, the historian of Derbyshire, was one of their ministers. — Besides the above-mentioned inhabitants there resided in this town William Chappel, Bishop of Cork, who died here 1649; Sir Simon Degge, editor of Erdeswick's "Staffordshire"; Anthony Blackwall, author of "Sacred Classics," who was master of the grammar school; William Butler, M.D., author on Puerperal Fevers, and Benjamin Parker, author on the Longitude and of "Philosophical Meditation." In this town also the first silk mill in England was established by John Lombe, in 1717.

In Edensor Church are the monuments of John Beton, confidential servant to Mary Queen of Scots, 1570, and William Cavendish, first Earl of Devonshire of his family, 1625.

In Elmton churchyard was buried its native, Jedediah Buxton, calculator, 1772.

In Elvaston Church is the monument of Sir John Stanhope, father of the first Earl of Chesterfield, 1610.

At Eyam, in 1665, the plague was introduced by some patterns of tailor's cloth, and in little more than a year there were 260 burials, but owing to the influence and precautions of its most exemplary rector, Mr. Mompesson, who remained during the whole time constantly visiting and praying by the sick, the distemper was confined exclusively to this village. His amiable wife, who would not leave her husband, died of the disease in her twenty-seventh year. Eyam was also the rectory of Thomas Seward, editor of Beaumont and Fletcher, and father of the Poetess of Lichfield.

In Fenny Bentley Church is the monument of Thomas Beresford Esq., 1473; he must have lived to a great age, for it appears by his epitaph that he had a command at the victory of Agincourt.

> "Militiâ excellens, strenuus dux, fortis et audax,
> Francia testatur, curia testis Agen."

At Finderne were buried in one grave, January 14th, 1747, John Woollet, aged 92, and Sarah Woollet, aged 93, who had lived together, husband and wife, for sixty years. Here was also interred, in 1754, Dr. Ebenezer Latham, scholar, who presided over a dissenting academy in this town, and among whose pupils were Ferdinando Warner, historian of Ireland, and John Taylor, author of Hebrew Concordance.

Glossop was the vicarage of the nonconformist, William Bagshaw, "the Apostle of the Peak," who died at Great Hucklow, in Hope parish, 1702. In the church is the monument of Joseph Hogue, benefactor to Glossop, and founder of Whitfield School (bust by Bacon), 1786.

At Hardwick died, and at Hault Hucknall was buried, Thomas Hobbes, the philosopher of Malmesbury.

In Hardwick Hall are many interesting portraits and some needlework said to have been done by Mary Queen of Scots.

At Hartshorn was buried its rector, Stebbing Shaw, historian of Staffordshire, 1803.

In Hathersaye churchyard is the grave of Little John, the coadjutor of Robin Hood.

Kedleston House was built from the designs of Adam about 1765. In the entrance-hall, 67 feet by 42, are twenty Corinthian columns of veined alabaster, 25 feet high, brought from Lord Curzon's quarries at Red Hill, in Nottinghamshire. The house contains a fine collection of paintings, among which a landscape by Cuyp and Daniel's Interpretation of Nebuchadnezzar's Dream, by Rembrandt, are particularly admired. In the church, among numerous monuments of the Curzons, is one of Sir Nathaniel Curzon, Bart. (by Rysbrach), 1758.

At Mapleton, in 1751, died Mary How, widow, aged 112. Her death, as recorded in the obituary of the *Gentleman's Magazine*, "was occasioned by pulling a codling off a tree, the bough of which fell on her arm and broke it. About two years before she cut a new set of teeth, and her hair turned from gray to a beautiful white, and she had a very florid colour."

At Melbourne was a palace of the bishops of Carlisle.

In Melbourne Castle, John Duke of Bourbon, taken prisoner at Agincourt, was kept in custody nineteen years.

In Morley Church, among the many monuments of the Stathams and Sacheverels are those of Ralph de Statham, who built the north aisle of the church, and died 1380, and of his wife Goditha,

who erected the steeple and remainder of the church, and died 1403.

At Norbury is the monument of Sir Anthony Fitzherbert.

At Ockbrook is a considerable establishment of Moravians or "United Brethren," which was formed in 1750.

At Repton School were educated Samuel Shaw, nonconformist divine, author of "Immanuel"; Stebbing Shaw, historian of Staffordshire; F. N. C. Mundy, poet of "Needwood Forest"; Jonathan Scott, translator of "Arabian Nights"; and W. L. Lewis, translator of Statius. The learned divine and librarian, John Lightfoot, was its first usher.

Romely Hall was the residence of Dr. Thomas Gisborne, physician to his Majesty, and President of the College; he died here 1806.

At Roston, in the parish of Norbury, was born the famous fasting impostor of Tutbury, Ann Moor.

In Sawley Church was buried Roger Bothe, father of Lawrence, Archbishop of York, and John, Bishop of Exeter.

Snelston, in Norbury parish, was the residence of the Rev. Thomas Langley, historian of Desborough Hundred, in the county of Bucks, and who here composed his "Serious Address to the Head and Heart of every unbiassed Christian." He died in 1804.

South Winfield manor-house was built by Ralph, Lord Cromwell, Lord High Treasurer to Henry VI. It was afterwards the seat of the Earls of Shrewsbury, of whom George, the fourth Earl, died here 1541. In the church was buried Immanuel Halton, mathematician and philosopher, 1699.

In Stavely Church, among the monuments of his ancestors, is the memorial of John, Lord Frecheville, the last of that ancient family, 1682.

In Sudbury Church are many monuments of the Montgomerys and Vernons; among the latter, George Venables, first Lord Vernon, 1780; Hon. Catharine Venables Vernon (poetical epitaph by William Whitehead, Poet Laureate), 1775; Hon. Martha Venables Vernon (poetical epitaph by her sister Elizabeth, Countess of Harcourt), 1808; George Venables, late Lord Vernon (epitaph by his brother, the Archbishop of York), 1813.

In Tideswell Church are the monuments of Sir Sampson Meverel, warrior under the Duke of Bedford, Regent of France, 1462, and of its native Robert Pursglove, Bishop of Hull, 1579.

At Tissington, in Mr. Fitzherbert's family, the Rev. Richard Graves resided three years, and has laid some of the scenes of his "Spiritual Quixote," in this neighbourhood.

In West Hallam Church is the monument of William Derbyshire, physician and divine, 1674.

In Whittington Church is the monument of the antiquary, Dr. Samuel Pegge, who was its resident rector for forty-five years, and

died there in 1796, aged ninety-one. He was a frequent and most valuable contributor to this magazine, his earlier papers being generally signed "Paul Gemsege," the anagram of Samuel Pegge, and the letter of T. Row, the initials of The Rector Of Whittington. He was also vicar of Heath, and perpetual curate of Wingerworth, in this county.

At Willersley are many paintings by Wright, of Derby; the most celebrated are a portrait of Sir Richard Arkwright, who died 1792, and a view of Ullswater, which was purchased for 300 guineas.

At Wirksworth Sir Richard Arkwright, inventor of the spinning jenny, practised as a barber.

In Wirksworth Church, among the many monuments of their family, are the tombs of Anthony Gell, who founded the school and almshouses, 1583, and Sir John Gell, Parliamentarian general, 1671.

At Wooton Hall, Hume procured a retreat for Jean Jacques Rousseau, where he lived from March, 1766, to April, 1767.

Bronchocele an endemic complaint of this county.

BYRO.

[1792, *Part I., p.* 306.]

Permit me to give you some little account of an excursion made lately by me through part of Derbyshire. We set out from Derby towards Markeaton, where the house of F. N. C. Mundy, Esq., a large and not inelegant building, attracted our attention. In this place were many houses till of late; but the village is now much on the decline, and the inhabitants removing to Mackworth, etc. The next view presenting itself is the neat church at the above place, which we much wished to view the inside of, but the clerk had just left the place with the keys; we were, therefore, obliged to have recourse to the windows, through which we could observe a very handsome chancel, lately repaired and decorated by Grecian architecture, a little *mal-à-propos* you will allow, connected with a light Gothic window; however, it is better so than damp, ragged, and unwholesome, as too many village churches are. The parsonage-house stands near the church; a comfortable, if not an elegant, building. Our route then lay through the town of Mackworth, at the upper end of which was once a castle; but nothing now remains except the south gateway, and that will, I am afraid, soon prostrate itself before all-conquering Time, though possibly had Time been its only enemy, Mackworth Castle might still have towered majestic over the village; but civil wars and uncivil depredators have laid its honours in the dust. The traces of the foundation are very extensive, and prove what it once was. From the castle we proceeded across the fields to Kedleston Hall. Lord Scarsdale's grand mansion, beautifully situated on an elevated piece of ground, disposed in a style suited to the house, in a great taste, not frittered

and tortured into a number of parts. A noble piece of water, at some distance before the building, gives an air of lightness to the whole highly pleasing. The large bridge across this water, of three arches, and a cascade under it, produces a charming effect. Near this place rises a fine spring, which is converted into a fountain with much taste: a little building, topped with a pediment, covers a lion, from whose mouth the water gushes exceedingly rapid. We had not an opportunity of viewing the inside of Kedleston Hall, but supplied the chasm in examining the church enveloped by ivy quite to the battlements of the tower: indeed it appears one mass of ivy in something the shape of a church. There are several good monuments in it of the Curzon family, some very ancient, particularly a man in armour, lying on the pavement, the original situation of which we could not discover. An epitaph in the graveyard for its singularity may be worth recording:

"EDWARD BASKERVILLE, died Feb. 22, 1715, in the 44th year of his age. He left what he had to the most charitable uses. Search the Register, and the table in the church. Glory to God!"

We then proceeded towards Duffield, and passed a very beautiful specimen of the Gothic, in a temple surrounded by tall trees, now neglected. It is inhabited by some country people, who may boast of a dwelling seldom exceeded in beauty. From the hill where the temple stands, Duffield presents itself deep in a hollow. Of this place an account has been given already. Of the road from Duffield to Derby it may be said that it is pleasant; but nothing occurs worth notice. During our excursion, which was in February, we saw a very beautiful butterfly, hovering in the sunshine of destruction, for a few days after came on the severest weather the winter had produced.

Yours, etc., J. P. MALCOLM.

Ashbourne.

[1772, p. 416.]

The above inscription [illustration omitted] I have exactly copied from a plate of brass, of the same size, found some years since in repairing the church of Ashbourne, in the county of Derby, but now affixed to a table of black marble against one of the pillars of the church. As no one of your antiquarian correspondents, that I know of, has thought proper to convey it to your useful repository, I beg leave to present it to the public through your means.

Yours, etc., RD. GREENE.

[1822, *Part II.*, *pp.* 578, 579.]

During a tour which I have been making in this neighbourhood, so fertile in natural beauties, in crossing the country from Ashbourne to Derby, tempted by the fertility of the adjoining villages, I digressed considerably from the direct road to the left, absorbed in pleasing reveries, to which the fineness of the weather and the season of the year so naturally gave rise, when my attention was arrested by the egress of a number of well-dressed people, chiefly of the higher order of peasantry, from a small building, which, from its appearance, might have been taken for a stable, and its being attached to a farm-house gave colour to the supposition. Imagining it was a Methodist meeting, it being Sunday, I was proceeding slowly on my way, when I was overtaken by an intelligent farmer, with whom I have some acquaintance, and who, to my great astonishment, gave me to understand that the obscure building which I had just passed was a Chapel of the Established Church, and that the cause of its erection was not less singular than the situation and style of architecture seemed to indicate. The popular, and indeed the only account he had ever heard assigned was "that one Brown, a man, as it should seem, of bad character, having occasion to go a journey *very early*, went to catch his horse, when he by some means caught the devil who broke loose, and vanished in a flash of fire." This is stated to have been the cause why the said Brown erected the chapel upon the place where the transfiguration took place, and endowed it with twelve pounds for ever, secured upon the field and the one adjoining, to be given to the resident clergyman of Mugginton, the adjoining parish, for preaching a sermon on the last Sunday in every month throughout the year.

This account, strange as it appears, is the only one I could procure, and it seems certain that this chapel owes its existence to some mental delusion of the nature above detailed; for within a few years the following lines were plainly visible:

> "John Brown being full of years, and full of evil,
> Instead of haltering his horse, he halter'd the Devil."

From whence it is always called Halter Devil Chapel.

Yours, etc., WM. JAMES.

Ashover.

[1791, *Part II.*, *p.* 790.]

I send you a copy of the monumental inscription in Ashover Church on the widow of Immanuel Bourne, rector and patron of that place. Her husband was buried at Aileston, in Leicestershire, as mentioned in Mr. Nichols's "Collections" for that county, p. 543, and therefore has no monument in Ashover Church. Several of his descendants are buried at Ashover, and the Rev. Lawrence Bourne,

of Dronfield, in this county, the great-grandson of Immanuel, is the present patron and rector of Ashover. The inscription is in the chancel, on a large slab of freestone, part within and part without the rails of the altar.

"Here lieth the body of JEMIMAH BOURNE, the eldest daughter of Sir Thomas Beckingham, of Tolson Beckingham, in the county of Essex, and Dame Elizabeth his wife, and the relict of Immanuel Bourne, late rector and patron of this church who died June the 19th, 1679, aged 79."

Yours, etc., A. W.

I see an inquiry in your last magazine (p. 504) for the epitaph of Immanuel Bourne, at Ashover, in the county of Derby. I was there a year or two since, but find no such person mentioned in my notes. It appears from a mural tablet in the chancel that Obadiah Bourne, M.A., died April 8th, 1710, æt. 64, and his widow, January 19th, 1711. I transcribed the following, which is at the service of your correspondent:

"Near this place lies interred REBECCA, wife of OBADIAH BOURNE, A.M., Rector of this parish, and daughter of John Lynch, esq.,* of Grove, in Kent, who departed this life Aug. 31, 1754, æt. 62."

There is a grandson of this match now living in orders, on whom the late Dr. Robert Lynch, M.D., of Canterbury, entailed a part of his estate. . . .

Yours, etc., N. S.

[1791, *Part II., p.* 998.]

I send you copies of the other monumental inscriptions in Ashover Church relating to the family of the Bournes, formerly resident in that parish.

The church at Ashover is a large, handsome structure, and, much to the credit of the present very respectable curate, the Rev. James Mills, and the inhabitants of the parish, it is kept in a superior degree of neatness to most village churches in the kingdom. It contains two other curious monuments, the one for Thomas Babington, Esq., of Dethick, the great-great-grandfather of Anthony Babington, Esq., who was attainted of treason, and executed in 1586, for the share he took in Ballard's conspiracy against Queen Elizabeth, and the other for James Rolleston, Esq., of the Lea (both in this parish), which monuments, together with the church, are well deserving of a minute description; but as a gentleman eminently qualified for the design has undertaken shortly to give the public a full and particular account of the history and antiquities of the county at large, I think it unnecessary at least, if not improper, now to attempt such a description.

* Father of John Lynch, D.D., Dean of Canterbury, who was father of Sir William Lynch, K.B., who died 1785, and of John Lynch, D.D., now Archdeacon of Canterbury.

In a manuscript volume of "Collections relating to the History of Derbyshire," made by Thomas Brailsford, gent., of Seynor, in this county, about the beginning of the present century, frequent references are made to the "Chartulary" of William Briewer, the great favourite of King John, or of his son, William Briewer, jun. Permit me to inquire of your numerous antiquarian and topographical readers whether this "Chartulary" is known to be at present in existence, and, if so, where it may be resorted to. Permit me also to inquire where the manuscript collections of the late Dr. Vernon, rector of St. George's, Bloomsbury, are now deposited; likewise whose property the collections of St. Lo Kniveton,* which lately formed a part of the Yelverton MSS., are now become.

D. O.

On a very heavy and ill-executed mural monument on the north side of the altar in the chancel of Ashover:

"M.S. Hic jacente propinquo OBADIAH BOURNE, A.M. Patronus et Rector fidelis. Et Elizabetha conjux illi non immerito charissima Piam animam efflavit hæc Aprilsi 11°. Anno Salutis humanæ 1710°. Ætatis suæ 64°. Ille ipsam subsecutus est Januarii 19°. Anno proxime sequenti, Ætatis suæ 81°. Monumentum hoc justæ gratitudinis ergo posuerunt filii."

On a marble slab within the rails of the altar:

"LAURENTIUS BOURNE, de Marsh Green Chirurgus haud frustra inter primos habitus, Ob. 19° Decembris A.D. 1749, æt. 73. Martha conjux pia ob. 12° Februarii A.D. 1751, æt. 65. Maria filia ob. 10° Martii A.D. 1743, æt. 24."

On a freestone slab on the north side of the altar, the letters run with lead:

"Here lyeth the body of ANNE WIGLYE, wife of Joshua Wiglye, Gentm. Grandchild to Immanuel Bourne, late Rector of this Church, who departed this life May the 19°. 1674."

On a marble slab near the middle of the chancel:

"GEORGIUS, filius Obadiæ et Rebeccæ Bourne, obiit Julii primo, 1748, ætatis vicesimo primo Magnæ spei juvenis."

On three different slabs of marble near the middle of the chancel:

1. "REBECCA BOURNE, died August the 31, 1764, aged 33 years."
2. "REBECCA BOURNE, August 31, 1754."
3. "OBADIAH BOURNE, died October the 6th, 1763, aged 80 years."

Bakewell.

[1794, *Part I.*, *pp.* 300, 301.]

I shall avail myself of this opportunity, Mr. Urban, with your leave, to transmit some of my church notes, etc., made upon this

* These form a part of the magnificent collection of the Marquis of Lansdowne. —EDIT.

spot. In the chancel of Bakewell Church is a beautiful and well preserved table monument of alabaster (covered with a wooden frame, at the instance of Mr. Roe, to protect it), with the following inscription upon its edge in very singular characters, remarkably square, and probably the whim of the sculptor, as I do not remember to have ever seen any which resemble them. They were originally convex, but, being somewhat damaged, have by the Rutland family, which intermarried with the last heir of the Vernons, been traced over with a black cement :

"HIC IACET IOH'ES VERNON FILIVS ET HERES HENRICI VERNON QVI OBIIT XII DIE MENSIS AVGVSTI ANNO D'NI M^mo CCCCLXXVII CVI' ANIME P'PICIET D'S."

On the east side of a chapel built by the Vernons is a fine table tomb, with three cumbent figures, with this inscription :

"HERE LIETH S^r GEORGE VERNON KNYGHT DECEASSED Y^e DAYE OF AN° 156 . AND DAME MARGERET HIS WYFFE DOWGHT^r TO S^r GYLBERT TAYLEBOYS DECEASSED Y^e DAYE OF 156 . AND ALSO DAME MAWDE HIS WYFFE DOWGHT^r TO S^r RAPHE LANGEFO FOT (so in the original) DECEASSED Y^e DAYE OF AN° 156 . WHOSE SOLLES GOD P'DON."

The blanks here left are so in the original.

In the same chapel is a fine monument, of the time of Elizabeth, for the last heir of the Vernons, who married into the Rutland family, and another for the Manners', with a vast number of figures of their children whilst living, placed there by some odd caprice of the person who erected the monument, which is finely preserved, and in the winter enclosed by folding doors. In the same chapel is the figure of a Norman knight in mail armour, but not cross-legged. Upon his helmet is inscribed IH̄C NAZARE̅N, a facsimile of which letters was traced off for me upon paper, by means of a roller of black lead, by Mr. Roe.

In the churchyard I copied the following inscription :

"Under this tomb lie the two wives of JOHN DALE, of Bakewell, Barber Surgeon, born at Sheldon. His first wife, Elizabeth, was the daughter of Godfrey Foljambe, of Bakewell ; his second wife, Sarah, was the daughter of Bloodworth. . . ."

The rest of the inscription only mentions what children he had by them, and is very much defaced, and difficult to read; the inclemency of the weather likewise prevented me from persevering in the attempt to transcribe it. On one side of the tomb are these lines :

"Know, posterity, that, on the 8th of Aprill, in the year of grace 1757, the rambling remains of the abovesaid John Dale were, in the 86th year of his pilgrimage, laid upon his two wives.

This thing in life might raise some jealousie,
Here all three lie together lovingly ;
But from embraces here no pleasure flows,
Alike are here all human joys and woes ;

Here Sarah's chiding John no longer hears,
And old John's rambling Sarah no more fears,
A period 's come to all their toylsome lives,
The good man's quiet, still are both his wives."

In the churchyard is a very ancient cross, something like that at Penrith, in Cumberland, but with a crucifix upon the top.

F. A. S.

In a late tour in Derbyshire I was much pleased with visiting a seat belonging to the Rutland family, called Haddon Hall, about a mile and a half from Bakewell, in that county. At present it is in a very ruinous condition, no one inhabiting it; but I think it as well worthy the observation of those who are fond of seeing ancient seats as any I am acquainted with.

Not having sufficient time when I was there to make any particular remarks, I should esteem myself obliged if any of your numerous correspondents would insert a short account of it in your valuable repository, and if the same was accompanied with a view, ever so roughly taken, it would perhaps give additional satisfaction to many of your readers, and to none more than your constant one,

W. P.

Our correspondent will find his curiosity gratified by the accounts of this mansion by Mr. King, in *Archæologia*, vi., 346-359; and by Mr. Bray, in the second edition of his Tour; the substance of both which are incorporated in the new edition of Camden's "Britannia," ii., 314. Vivares engraved a N.W. view of it 1769, after a drawing taken by Smith 1744. The Society of Antiquaries are possessed of a number of drawings of it by the late Mr. Schnebbelie, with a full account of it; which, it is hoped, they will give to the public as a continuation of their "Vetusta Monumenta."

Beauchief.

[1814, *Part I., pp.* 225-227.]

With this you will receive a view of the remains of Beauchief Abbey, in the hundred of Scarsdale, county Derby (see Plate II.). It is situated 10 miles north-north-west from Chesterfield, and $5\frac{1}{4}$ south-west by south from Sheffield, county York:

"An Abbey of Premonstratensian, or White, Canons, founded A.D. 1183, by Robert Fitz Ranulph, Lord of Alfreton, one of the executioners of Thomas Becket, Abp. of Canterbury, to whom, canonized, this monastery was dedicated. It was valued 26 Hen. VIII. at £126 : 3 : 4 *per annum*, as Dugdale; £134 : 0 : 0 Leland; £157 : 10 : 2 Speed; and granted 28 Hen. VIII. to Sir Nicholas Strelley."*

"An Historical Account" of this Abbey, by the late Rev. Dr. Samuel Pegge, was published in the year 1801, "wherein the three following material points, in opposition to vulgar prejudices and

* Tanner's "Not. Mon."

opinions, are clearly established: 1st. That this abbey did not take its name from the head of Abp. Becket, though it was dedicated to him. 2nd. That the founder of it had no hand in the murder of that prelate; and, consequently, that the house was not erected in expiation of that crime. 3rd. The dependence of this house on that of Welbeck, co. Nottingham; a matter hitherto unknown." This valuable Monastic History having been rendered remarkably scarce, from an accident, it may be allowable to make a few extracts from it:

(1) "It is the vulgar and common notion that the Abbey was denominated from St. Thomas's *Head;* but it is evident to demonstration, from the very words of the grant of foundation, that it had obtained the appellation of *Beauchef*, before the abbey was founded, and probably before St. Thomas was born. I conceive it took its name from the nature of the place, like Beauchamp, Beaumont, Beaulieu, Beaupré, etc., *chef* here not signifying the head of a person, but a head, or elevated point of land, like the Italian *capo*, and the Spanish *cabo*. In the conery at Beauchef there is an headland, under which the abbey was situated [as shewn in the view], where there is a fine and most extensive prospect, so as deservedly to be called *Beauchef*" (p. 8).

(2) "Robert Fitz-Ranulph, the munificent founder of Beauchief Abbey, does not appear to have been one of Becket's murderers; and consequently there is no room for the supposition that he established this convent by way of atoning for his crime; for it is by all authors agreed there were but four persons concerned in Becket's murder, Reginald Fitz-Urse, Wm. de Tracey, Hugh de Morevilla, and Richard Brito. Surely a person of Fitz-Ranulph's rank and consideration, a baron, and of the best note amongst them (for the rest were only knights), would certainly have been mentioned had he been present. He infallibly would have been called to account, and punished for the crime equally, or perhaps more severely, than the others, had he been one of the company. It does not appear that he was; on the contrary, we behold him a nobleman of great dignity, opulent, and flourishing. The perpetrators of this tragedy were all ordered immediately out of the kingdom, and their estates would of course be seized and confiscated; so that, if Fitz-Ranulph had been one of their party, he never would have had it in his power to found a monastery" (pp. 14-16).

(3) "The number of canons who composed this little body, amounted to an abbat and twelve brothers, which number was thought to constitute a true and proper convent; and deemed to be complete and full.—It will be thought probable, that these canons were at first all brought from one place, and from Welbeck, the nearest house of the same order. The founder's great charter was attested by the whole company, the abbat and convent, of that

house.—Welbeck was the most opulent and flourishing house of the order in the midland parts of England; and the founder's family appears to have had great connexion with Welbeck. Though Beauchief was not properly a *cell* to Welbeck, it nevertheless had a great dependence upon that house; and the superintendance of the abbat of Welbeck was grounded, it seems, on some papal bull now lost" (pp. 51-55).

"Beauchief is extra-parochial. 'The place where the abbie stands, and about 800 acres of the grounds adjacent and belonging thereto, are still known and called by that one common name of Beauchieffe, and are situated betwixt the lordship of Eccleshale in Sheafield parish on the North, the hamlet of Dore in Dronfield parish Westward, and the hamlets of Bradway, Greenhill, and Woodseats, upon the South and East, within the parish of Norton.'* There was a park, of about 200 acres, and water sufficient, both for the use of the house, and for supplying the table with fish, a matter to which the monks of all orders were constantly attentive. The House was founded between the years 1172 and 1176,—though I incline to name 1180 for the opening, or even a year or two before that. The house was not sacred solely to St. Thomas, the Virgin Mary being associated with him, as represented on their first seal. However, as St. Thomas eclipsed St. Mary at Canterbury, so here the donations at last were made to St. Thomas the Martyr, exclusively of the Virgin; and even the convent themselves appear to wish to have it understood, that he was their Saint paramount, since in their last seal no notice is taken of her, but a representation is only given of the martyrdom, as they were pleased to call it, of St. Thomas" (pp. 39-42).

"As to the chapel, or church, in the case above cited,† it is said, 'Here at Beauchife, together with the abbie, was likewise built up a very spacious church, having a faire chancel, where was an altar; a large steeple, where are five bells; and likewise a *cœmeterium*, or church-yard, where (as also in the church) corps were interred whilst it was an abbie, and since.'"

"In 28 Hen. VIII., 1537, the king granted the site of the abbey, with the estate belonging to it, to Sir Nicholas Strelley, of Strelley, co. Nottingham, for the sum of 223*l.*; and the description of the parcels then granted is 'The house and site of the abbey or monastery De Bello Capite . . . and all the church, belfrey, and church-

* From a MS. case at Beauchief, written by Edward Pegge.

† "Though this is an history of the abbey, and not an account of the family, I beg leave to add a word or two of *myself* as the compiler; for I am more than *nominally* authorized to undertake the work. Gertrude, whom I have purposely specified as one of the children of Edward Pegge, the first proprietor of the abbey, was *my* maternal *grandmother;* add to this, that I have had access to all the family documents at Beauchief from time to time, and especially by the indulgence of my late kinsman, the first Strelley Pegge, my grandmother's nephew."

yard of the same . . . also all messuages, houses, edifices, barns, stables, dovecotes, gardens, orchards, ponds, parks, land, and soil, within the scite, circuit, and precincts of the late abbey. Also 121 acres of arable land, 65 acres and a half of meadow; and 73 acres of pasture, with the appurtenances in Beauchief aforesaid. . . . Also all our grange called Strawbereley, with the appurtenances in Beauchief aforesaid; . . . and all houses, edifices, lands, meadows, pastures, and commons" (pp. 203, 204).

"Sir Nicholas Strelley was of a very ancient family. The king calls him his *serviens*. In the reign of Edward VI. he was captain of the castle and town of Berwick; had three wives, and died 1560 or 1561. Gertrude Strelley, the great-great-granddaughter, and at length heiress of Sir Nicholas, married in 1648, Edward Pegge, esq., in whose lineal descendants Beauchief still remains" (pp. 204, 205).

"The chapel of the convent was actually restored and fitted up by Edward Pegge,* esq. (the first proprietor of that name), converted into a church and used as such. It is a donative. The church is now very decently pewed, and well covered" (p. 207).

"As the abbey could never have become an habitable mansion (like many other religious houses), the above Edward Pegge, about 1671, began to build a spacious and handsome house on a different site (at some distance from the abbey) upon a gentle descent on the brow at the top of the hanging wood, the *bellum caput* (fine head) or *Beau Chef*, whence the abbey received its name" (p. 211).

By the return to the Population Act in 1811, Beauchief Abbey contained 15 houses and as many families, 9 of whom were employed in agriculture and 6 in trade, consisting of 46 males and 52 females, total 98. The money raised by the poor rate in 1803 was £46 6s. 6d., at threepence in the pound.

Yours, etc., B. N.

Bolsover.

[1786, *Part I., p.* 298.]

If you think fragments of ancient sculpture worthy of a place in your valuable repository, the enclosed drawing of one is at your service. About fourscore years ago a stone was taken up, which served as a step to the north door of Bolsover Church, co. Derby. On the lower side was discovered ancient rude sculpture in very high relief representing the Nativity (see Plate II., Fig. 2). The Virgin Mary appears to be sitting in a stable with a mutilated figure of our Saviour in her lap, who seems to have had one hand on a dove; the other figure, standing on the side, was probably intended for Joseph. In the background an old man is seen coming into the stable. The two camels' heads are looking into the manger; the great projection of these heads from the background is very singular. The stone is

* See note † on p. 24.

five feet by three. I think it appears from the drapery and other parts of the sculpture to be the work of the thirteenth century, if not anterior to that period. It was then probably held in high estimation, and from the situation in which it was found, I should imagine it was put there as a place of safety during the frequent attacks that were made on Bolsover Castle,* or to secure it in later times from the fanatic fury of the Parliament's forces when they took possession of the castle.† The stone now stands against the wall in the chancel.

Yours, etc., H. R.

[1786, *Part I., p.* 469.]

The gentleman, under the signature of H. R., who favoured you with a drawing of a piece of sculpture in stone representing the Nativity, which formerly served as a step to the north door of Bolsover Church, is of opinion that it was laid there with a design of preserving it during the frequent attacks made on the neighbouring castle, or of securing it from the fanatic fury of the Parliament forces in the Civil Wars of the last century. To me it seems more likely to have been removed from its original place in consequence of the statute of 3rd and 7th of Edw. VI., cap. 10, which enjoined "all images in churches of stone, timber, or earth, graven, carved, or painted, to be defaced and destroyed;" and considering the subject delineated, and that Bolsover Church was dedicated to the Virgin Mary, it may have occurred to your correspondent that the stone might be originally fixed in the chancel, in order to commemorate her being the tutelary saint.

From the drapery and other parts, H. R. conceives it to be the work of the thirteenth century, if not of an earlier period. Supposing the surmise above offered to be well founded, if the year of the building of the church could be discovered, that might nearly ascertain the date of this ornamental stone. For it was directed by several ecclesiastical ordinances that at the time of the consecration of a church, the diocesan should take care that the image of the saint, to whom the church was dedicated, should be pictured on some wall or pillar of it, or that there should be an inscription specifying the name of the saint and the time of the ceremony's being performed. It appears also from the decree of Archbishop Winchelsey, confirmed by Reynolds, his immediate successor, that the chancel was judged to be the most proper place for this purpose (Kennet's "Parochial Antiquities," p. 609).

Yours, etc., W. and D.

Boylston.

[1792, *Part II., pp.* 884, 885.]

The following particulars relating to the parish of Boylston are

* "Bibl. Top. Brit.," No. XXXII., p. 7. † *Ibid.*, p. 17.

at Mr. Urban's service. The parish is situated on the western side of the county, nine miles from Ashbourne, three from Sedbury, is in the deanery of Castillar and hundred of Appletree. The living is a rectory. The church, which is situated on a rising ground, seems to be an ancient structure, built of stone. There are few monuments of any note. In the chancel, within the rails, on a flat stone, is the following inscription :

"Depositum GRATIÆ ALLSOP, quæ fuit uxor Thomæ Allsop, rectoris per 49 annos. Mortem obivit anno ætatis 76 ; anno salutis 1714. Uxor prudens a Deo venit, ad Deum redit."

On another :

"Depositum THOMÆ ALLSOP, qui fuit rector hujus ecclesiæ per 31 annos. Mortem obivit anno ætatis 75 ; anno salutis 1715."

On two other flat stones :

"SARAH ALLSOP, ob. 14 July, 1691."
"CHRISTOPHER ALLSOP, ob. 11 Feb. 1673."

On the north side of the church are two mural monuments, of modern date : one to the memory of a Mr. Crofts ; the other, to several of the name of Chawner, who have had their residence for some time back at a place called Lees Hall. I forgot to mention that there is a flat stone in the south side of the church, with a very ancient inscription round it ; but, through the alteration of some seats, is broken, and otherwise much defaced through time. On a future opportunity, if these be worth your acceptance, I may probably send you some notes respecting this village.

SAMUEL GETHOLL.

[1792, *Part II., p.* 1184, 1185.]

Mr. Getholl wishes to know if any family of the name of Boylston ever lived at a village of the same appellation, situated in the western part of Derbyshire. Be pleased to communicate to him the following memoranda regarding the above place, which I lately extracted from an ancient book of records, viz., "that one Thomas was formerly Lord of Boylestone, and held the same by the half of a knight's fee. And the said Thomas was Lord of Draycot under Needwood, a member of the aforesaid village of Boylestone, and held the town of Draycot of the Earl of Ferrers, by service of hunting, viz., that he should find one hunter with a horse, and if the horse should die in the service of his lord the earl, then his lord the earl should find another horse for him to ride upon."

From the above-mentioned Thomas descended Hawise, a daughter and heir, and from her descended a Reginald de Boylestone. This, I presume, is sufficient to answer in some degree your correspondent's query. The name of Boylston I soon after find changed into that of Pecche, as heir to the above places. But, as my MS. is quite imperfect and confused, being entirely without dates, I shall trouble

you no further upon this subject, particularly as Mr. Getholl has promised you some future account of the village at Boylston. Now as Draycot is said above to be then a member of that place, the one being in Derbyshire, and the other near four miles distant from it, and on the opposite side of the river Dove, in the parish of Hanbury, I should wish to receive some farther evidence respecting the truth of the above, and whether any such connection does at present exist. . . .

Yours, etc., S. S.

Brampton.

[1802, *Part I., p.* 297.]

I send you a rough draft of a curious monumental stone, accidentally discovered in Brampton Church * by the pavement being taken up for the purpose of making a vault. It is about a foot below the floor of the church. The inscription upon it I read thus :

"Hic jacet Matilda le Cave ; orate pro anima ejus : pater nobilis."

From the veil over the face it is conjectured that the person interred was a nun.† There is no date upon the stone. I cannot vouch for the correctness of the representation I have sent you, as it is only a copy from one in Mr. Field's possession. The inscription, I believe, is pretty accurate.

E. Goodwin, Jun.

Buxton.

[1794, *Part II., p.* 1073.]

To the amusing account you have given of Buxton and its neighbourhood [see 1793, ii., 1084-1085] the following letter to the Lord Cromwell in the reign of Henry VIII. may be an amusing appendage. It is taken from the British Museum, "Cotton MSS.," Cleopatra E. IV., p. 238 :

"Right honourable my inespecial good Lord, according to my bounden duty and the tenor of your Lordship's letters lately to me directed, I have sent unto your good Lordship by this bearer, my brother Francis Bassett, the images of St. Ann of Buxton, and St. Andrew of Burton upon Trent, which images I did take from the places where they did stand, and brought them to my own house, within 48 hours after the contemplation of your said Lordship's letters, in as sober manner as my little and rude wits would serve me. And for that there should no more idolatry and superstition be there used, I did not only deface the tabernacles and places where

* About three miles west from Chesterfield in Derbyshire.

† There seems no reason for supposing this lady was a *religious;* the veil and wimple being the female habit of the time, about the thirteenth or fourteenth century. The cross at the left corner is only the usual affix to these kind of epitaphs ; and the concluding words are *Pater Noster.* Were the *Caves* an ancient or considerable family in Derbyshire ?

they did stand, but also did take away crutches, shirts, and sheets, with wax offered, being things that did alure and intice the ignorant people to the said offerings; also giving the keepers of both places admonition and charge that no more offerings should be made in those places till the King's pleasure and your Lordship's be further known in that behalf. My Lord, I have also locked up and sealed the baths and wells at Buxton, that none shall enter to wash them till your Lordship's pleasure be further known. Whereof I beseech your good Lordship that I may be ascertained again at your pleasure, and I shall not fail to execute your Lordship's commandment to the uttermost of my little witt and power. And, my Lord, as touching the opinion of the people, and the fond trust that they did put in those images, and the vanity of the things; this bearer, my brother, can tell your Lordship better at large than I can write; for he was with me at the doing of all and in all places, as knoweth good Jesus, whom ever have your good Lordship in his blessed keeping. Written at Langley, with the rude and simple hand of your assured and faithful orator, and as one ever at your commandment, next unto the King, to the uttermost of my little power,

"WILLIAM BASSETT, Knight."

[1824, *Part II., pp.* 586, 587.]

In "the Benefit of the auncient Bathes of Buckstones, which cureth most greeuous Sicknesses, neuer before published; compiled by John Jones, Phisition, at the Kings Mede nigh Darby, anno salutis 1572," is the following description of exercises and amusements adapted to the invalid. The latter do not appear to be noticed by either Brand or Strutt.

"To the sickly [says the author] small exercyse will serue, by reason of feeblenesse, not able too suffer pantynge, neyther verily so violent for them shalbee requysite. But if their strength will sustayne it, an exercyse conuenient for theyr callinge shalbee vsed.

"*Trol in Madam.*—The ladyes, gentlewomen, wyues, and maydes, maye in one of the galleries walke: and if the weather bee not agreeable to theire expectacion, they may haue, in the ende of a bench, eleuen holes made, intoo the which to trowle pummetes, or bowles of leade, bigge, little, or meane, or also of copper, tynne, woode, eyther vyolent or softe, after their owne discretion. The pastyme Troule in Madame is termed.

"Lykewyse, men feeble the same may also practise, in another gallery of the newe buyldinges, and this dooth not only strengthen the stomack, and vpper parts aboue the mydryfe, or wast, but also the middle partes beneath the sharp gristle and the extreme partes, as the handes and legges, according to the wayght of the thing trouled, fast, soft or meane.

"*Bowling.*—In lyke manner bowling in allayes, the weather con-

uenient, and the bowles fitte to suche game, as eyther in playne or longe allayes, or in such as haue cranckes with halfe bowles, which is the fyner and gentler exercise.

"*Shoting the noblest exercyse.*—Shootinge at garden buttes, too them whom it agreeeth and pleaseth, in place of noblest exercyse standeth, and that rather wyth longe bowe, than wyth tyller, stone bowe, or crosse bowe. Albeit to them that otherwyse cannot, by reason of greefe, feeblenesse, or lacke of vse, they may be allowed.

"This practise of all other the manlyest, leaueth no part of the body vnexercised, the brest, backe, reynes, wast, and armes, with drawing the thyghes, and legges, with running or going.

"*Wind ball, or yarne ball.*—The wind baule, or yarne ball, betwene three or foure, shall not be invtile to be vsed, in a place conuenient, eache keeping their limite for tossing, wherein may bee a very profitable exercise, by cause at all tymes they keepe not the lyke force in stryking, so that they shalbee constrayned too vse more violent stretching, with swifter mouinge at one tyme than another, which will make the exercise more nymble and deliuer, both of hand and whole body, therefore encreasing of heat, through swift moouing, in all partes the sooner.

"*Plumbes or weightes.*—Plumbetes, of Galene termed *alteres*, one borne in eche hande, vp and downe the stayers, galeries, or chambers, according to your strength, maye bee a goode and profitable exercise; so may you vse wayghtes in lyke maner.

"*Bow lyne.*—A fyne hallyer, or bowe lyne, a foote or twoo hyer then a man may reache, fastened in length, some way, shall not bee vnprofitable, holden by the handes, thereby to stretche them; very excellent, as well for stretchinge of the mydrife, interne panicles and wast, with all the rest of the partes, as also to preserue and defend them from apostemes, obstructions, and paynes thereto incident.

"These exercyse of your owne power, I thinke, for thys place sufficient. Nowe we will shewe how they may bee profitable vnto you thorow others mouing; as well by waggon, charriet, horselitter, and ryding, as by cradle and chayor hanged, in sorte as to that vse may be best framed, all very profitable, as they may bee exercised: much, little, or meane, close, or open in the ayre, as to the parties shall bee requisite; taking time likewise in the vsing, swift, slowe, or meane; long, short, or meane. And so likewyse in rocking by vice or engyne; or on the floure, which is more shaking, and therfore to them that may suffer it more profitable.

"The other good to weaker persons, as that in frame, conueyed by pendent, from one to another, standing asunder according to the length of the engyne, three or iiij sedome drawen from them to the other, swift, slow, or meane, long, short, or mean, as to the party shalbe conuenient. Omitting other deuices to opportunity," etc.

Eu. Hood.

Chesterfield.

[1793, *Part II., p.* 977.]

A few particulars collected by me, relating to the fine old church of All Saints, at Chesterfield, may possibly prove acceptable to such of your readers as have not seen it. It is very large, and, greatly to the credit of the inhabitants, very clean. The shape, that of the cross. From the middle, a massy tower rises, adorned with pinnacles and double windows; the spire is of timber, and, from a strange fancy of the architect, crooked; the angular flutings, if I may be allowed the term, wind spirally from the base to the top, and are covered with lead. The height from the ground to the vane, I was told, is 230 feet. A gentleman of Chesterfield, who has made many notes relating to the antiquities of the town, informs me that "the church at Chesterfield was given by Rufus to the cathedral at Lincoln," the dean of which is now patron. Another of this gentleman's notes says, the present building was dedicated 1232. The choir is handsomely pewed, and there are two large galleries, and an excellent organ. In the south aisle there is an arch containing a female figure, with angels supporting the head; the hands and other parts of it are defaced. I was not successful in my inquiry who it was that is interred there. A slab in the body of the church has a cross with a hammer and pincers engraved on it. Near some large tombs to the Foljambes, etc., stands a pedestal without an inscription, on which lies a cushion richly embroidered; a figure in complete armour kneels on it in the attitude of prayer; his hands are broken off, but it is plain they have been joined; but what renders it worthy of remark is that the person's head appears to have been shot off entirely from the mouth upwards, and the helmet replaced lightly on the remaining part. Indeed it has so odd an appearance, that I made a drawing of it, without consulting which the description appears lame. It does not seem to belong to any other monument near, and I could not arrive at any certainty for whom it was intended as a memorial.

There are many other things worthy of notice in this majestic fabric, which I shall leave till I have an opportunity of viewing them again; and in the meantime send you three old epitaphs.

1. "CUTHBERT HUTCHINSON, vicar. sepult. quinto die Februarii, 1608."

2. "Hic jacet D'nus Eoh'es Pyppys, Capellanus gilde Sanzi Crucis, qui obiit vic° die mencis Julii, an'o D'ni mill°. . . . Cujus anime Omnipotens d. propiciet'. Amen."

On a brass plate in the south wall:

3. "Hic subtus tumulantur ossa d'ni Joh'is Verdun quondam Rectoris de lyndeby in comitatu Nottinghamie Ebor' dioc' Et Capellani cantarie s'c'i Michaelis Archangeli in eccl'ia paroch' om' s'cor' de Chesterfeld q' obiit s'c'do die me's' maii A° d'ni M° d° xiiii° pro cui' a'i'a sic quess orate p'ut' p'v'ris a'i' abs orari voluer."

Yours, etc., J. P. MALCOLM.

[1794, *Part I., pp.* 15-17.]

I send you my notes taken at Chesterfield, co. Derby, in the summer of 1789, if you deem them worthy of insertion in your useful miscellany.

Yours, etc., R. G.

The nave rests on six pointed arches on clustered columns. The centre arches on four clustered columns.

In the north transept is a freestone altar-tomb for—

—— Burgensis de Chesterfield, 1599.

His figure, and that of his wife, entire.

In the chancel, a priest cut in white stone, holding a book and chalice.

Hic jacet dominus johes pppys capellanus Gilde sce crucis qui obiit viii. die mensis julii a° mill° $\frac{xi}{xx}$ Cujus aie de'. . . .

Within the rails is a brass figure of a knight in armour and mail, cropped hair, head in a helmet without crest, collar, sword, and dagger; on his gonfannons a bend between six escallops. Quarterly, 1, 2 on a bend five crosses patonce; 3, a chevron between three escallops. On his surcoat the same; the upper quarters hid. He stands on a stag bearded and paned. His lady is in profile, in the veil and low pointed head-dress of the fifteenth or sixteenth century, having a chain and cross and cordon, a belt with three roses on her surcoat faced with broad ermine. On her mantle, a saltire with five amulets; which shield, the only remaining one of four on the slab, is impaled by his quartered coat. Under them are seven sons and seven daughters.

In a south chapel is an altar-tomb of the Foljambes. A knight and lady, brassless, on a blue slab without a ledge. On an alabaster tomb with six pairs of knights under double canopies, viz., a lady and two knights, knight and lady, knight and lady, knight and lady, knight and lady. The knights have straight hair, helmet between their feet, oblong shield notched. At feet, on a pedestal, a knight and lady between two angels with shields. The north side hid by wainscot.

At the foot of this, on a pedestal, a figure of a man in plated armour, kneeling on a flowered cushion, the hands broken. On his shoulders fixed a vizored head not belonging to it (see the Plate).

Against the east wall, a mural monument for Sir James Foljambe, Knight of the Garter, eldest son of Sir Godfrey F., 1558, erected by his *nepos* Godfrey. The inscription, in Latin, sets forth that he married Alice, *neptis* and co-heir of William Fitzwilliams, Earl of Southampton, and daughter of Thomas Fitzwilliams, of ....edwarre; and Alice, daughter of Edward Litleton, of Staffordshire, by whom he had a numerous issue.

He kneels on armour. Below, to the right, are his wife and five daughters and one son; and to the left, three sons and four daughters. Arms, G. on a bend argent, six crosses O. between az., a bend arg. between six escallops, impaling lozenge G. and O., a mullet of difference.

An alabaster figure of a knight in a double collar, ruff, piked beard, bare head, plated armour, ruffles, sword, dagger, and gauntlets *in concord* at side, helmet under head, with a leg for a crest; a lion at his feet. A lady in a ruff, mantle, standing cape, piked sleeves, her head on a flowered cushion, her surcot in front buttoned to her chin, a dog at her feet.

On the ledge, on a fess three roundels; a fess between three leopards' faces; in a dexter canton, a rose; a cross engrailed; a lion rampant; a saltire engrailed; on a pale, three lions passant gardant; a spread eagle.

At the head: three mascles in fesse; a saltire, over all a label of three points; a bend lozenge; semée of nine cross crosslets fitché, three gerbes.

On the south side: a bend and label of three points; semée of nine cross crosslets, on a shield a cross potent; — — — a chief; lozengé; a chevron between three escallops; on a bend five crosses potent; a bend between six escallops.

At the head, Foljambe with quarterings impaling three heathcocks, quartering . . . a chief dancette.

At the sides, in tablets:

FUGIT VELVT UMBRA.
VIGILATE ORATE NESCITIS QUANDO VENIT HORA—twice.

Foljambe, with quarterings.

Against the east wall, a winding-sheet on a bier, bones, spades, etc.; and, above, Death between Age and Youth.

In a cenotaph, a man in armour and his hair lying on a mat, a lion at his feet. A lady in a ruff, stiff toupee, on a mat and cushion, a skull at her feet. Above, a table uninscribed between a female with a bird on her right hand, and another holding fruit and flowers. Foljambe with quarterings and crest, and single. A bend with a cross. A chevron between escallops.—Lozengé.

An armed figure, with a sword, helmet, and gauntlets, cut in the stone, and this epitaph:

GEORGIUS FOLJAMBE NOMEN . . . OCCUBUIT PLACIDE, etc.

In the window, a mitred fox in a pulpit preaching to geese and a cock. Pegasus retiring behind:

Pes be here En.

A bear collared quartering three pheons. Arms of the first vicar of Chesterfield.

On the screen to the chancel, angels hold the instruments of the passion: a lion and eagle.

On a slab for "Godfrey Heathcote, third son of Ralph, rector of Morton, clerk of the peace for Derbyshire, fourteen years, 1773, 72; and his wife Dorothy, daughter of James Cooke, rector of Barlbro', 1766, 63."

In the south chapel of the chancel, a rich tabernacle resting on a bust, and on each side of the east window; a perk or pedestal for an image.

Against the south end of the south transept is nailed a brass thus inscribed:

Hic subt' humant' ossa dni Johis Verdon quo'dam rectoris de Lyndeby in comitatu Notyngamie ebor' dioc' Et Capellani cantarie sc'i michaelis archangeli in ecclesia p'och' o'm s'cor' de chesterfeld q^i obiit s'c'do die me's' maii A° d'ni m°d^c p'cui' a'i'a sic queso orate p'ut p'b'ris a'i'ab's orari bolner'.

In the east window, O. a cross potent, az. G. three lions passant gardant O. Barry O. and G., in chief three torteauxes; G. a cross moline A.

In the south aisle of the nave, between the first and second window from the east and opposite Foljambe's seat, with arms and crest in the south wall, is a stone figure of a priest, and this inscription, as far as could be read*:

No bollbrdys [or *bowbrdys*] *Godfray ffols* B.

In the south aisle, a slab with a triple cross on steps between a hammer and pincers.

** In the outer wall, next the road of a chapel, just out of Hounslow, on the north, is inserted in a quatrefoil a shield with the following coats quartered: 1. a saltire between twelve cross crosslets; 2. a bend cottised charged with mullets between . . .; 3. a cross moline; 4, 5, 6. effaced. Round the shield an imperfect inscription, in which may just be distinguished:

Moun . . . Windsor.

In addition to what has been said of the church at Chesterfield, and of the monuments in it, I present you a representation of the figure whose head is so unaccountably mutilated. Surely no artist could have erred so egregiously as to have replaced a broken head in a manner so totally out of nature. As some chiselling was necessary to fit on the new one, what could have been his motive for leaving the old chin? Possibly some modern restorer, imitating his predecessor, may furnish him with a pair of old feet in place of his absent hands. However, I do not mean to treat the subject lightly. What has been said occurred on meeting an observation that it was a mutilated statue, mended in the manner it now stands. If this be

* It has since been inclosed by pews, and mutilated. See the next letter. —Edit.

really the case, nothing can be more ridiculous, or better calculated to raise a smile. As the whole is detached, and the other monuments perfect, I cannot help thinking its history worthy of investigation. If any of your correspondents should incline to pursue the subject, I must observe that the knight appears to me to have been too well carved to suppose that the original sculptor was to blame (see Plate III., p. 1).

Fig. 2 is the monument described in p. 977. It has been covered with undisturbed dust, mats, and pews for many years, except, at distant intervals, the curious traveller, or hardy antiquary thrusts his adventurous face close upon it, in defiance of kneeling cushions, ragged boards, and crooked nails. After all, he will find room for his imagination. One would suppose, from the frequency of pews built round and against monuments, that their preservation was the motive. Unfortunately this is not the case, as many an unlucky tomb evinces. I could have wished the pews in some other situation when sketching the arch.

Figs. 3 and 4 are copied from seals in the possession of the Corporation at Chesterfield. I had not time, or I should have drawn two or three others, which were in excellent preservation and finely executed. Fig. 3 is the seal to William Briwerr the younger's confirmation of his father's grant to Chesterfield. In the reign of King John, the town was incorporated in favour of W. Briwerr. Baldwin Wake, by marrying the daughter of W. B., junior, obtained possession of that borough. Fig. 4 belongs to Wake's grant to the borough of Chesterfield, 22 Edw. I.

Yours, etc., J. P. MALCOLM.

[1819, *Part II., pp.* 497, 498.]

The town of Chesterfield, county Derby, is supposed by Dr. Pegge to have originated in a Roman station on the road from Derby to York. It is noticed in Domesday Book as a bailiwick only, belonging to Newbold, now a small hamlet at a short distance from it on the north. After this period it rapidly increased. A church, erected here towards the conclusion of the eleventh century, was given by William Rufus to the Cathedral of Lincoln. In the reign of John the manor was granted to William De Briwere (or Bruere), his particular favourite, through whose influence with the monarch the town was incorporated, and an annual fair, of eight days' continuance, and two weekly markets obtained. From the De Brueres it passed in marriage to the family of Wake, and afterwards to Edward Plantagenet, Earl of Kent (who married a female of that name), whose descendants continued possessors for several generations. In the 26th Edward III. it was held by John, second son of Edmund of Woodstock, and in 1386 by Sir Thomas Holland, from whom it passed to the Nevilles. In the reign of Queen Elizabeth it

belonged to George Earl of Shrewsbury, and afterwards became the property of the Cavendishes by purchase, from whom it descended to the present Duke of Portland, but has since passed, in exchange, to the Duke of Devonshire. The Stanhopes, Earls of Chesterfield, derive their title from this town.

A battle was fought here in 1266 between Henry, nephew of King Henry III., and Robert de Ferrers, the last Earl of Derby, who was defeated, and was taken prisoner in the church, where he had concealed himself. During the Civil Wars another battle was fought here, in which the troops of the Parliament were defeated by the Earl of Newcastle.

The church is a spacious and handsome building, but more particularly remarkable for the appearance of its spire, which rises to the height of 230 feet, and is so singularly twisted and distorted that it seems to lean in whatever direction it may be approached. I send a drawing of it (see Plate II.), taken in a different point of view from one already inserted in your Vol. LXIII., p. 977, by Mr. Malcolm, in which page, and in Vol. LXIV., p. 17, will be found several particulars relative to the church and the monuments within it.

The best account of the Grammar School in this town will be found in Mr. Carlisle's "Endowed Schools," vol. i.

In the market-place is a neat town hall, built a few years ago, under the direction of Mr. Carr, of York; on the ground-floor is a gaol for debtors and a residence for debtors, and on the second-floor a large room for holding the sessions, etc. Several almshouses have been endowed in different parts of the town.

The present Corporation consists of a mayor, six aldermen, six brethren, and twelve capital burgesses, assisted by a town clerk.

At the Castle Inn an elegant assembly-room was built a few years ago.

The town contained in 1801 920 houses and 4,267 inhabitants. The chief employments for the labouring classes are the ironworks in the neighbourhood, the stocking manufacture, the potteries, a carpet manufactory, and the making of shoes.*

Yours, etc., N. R. S.

Dovedale.

[1794, *Part I., p.* 297.]

If you think the enclosed sketches of a remarkable perforated rock in Dovedale will be acceptable to your readers, they are very much at your service. Fig. 1 is a view of the entrance of a cave called Reynard's Hall, as seen through the arch. Fig. 2 is a view of the arch from the inside of the cave; at about twelve yards from

* The above particulars are chiefly abridged from vol. iii. of the "Beauties of England and Wales."

this is another cave, called Reynard's Kitchen. See the plan of these caves at Figs. 3 and 4.

The many Druidical remains that are to be met with in the Peak afford reason to suppose that this sequestered and romantic valley would not escape the notice of the Druids; the projecting and high-pointed rocks, the caves, the once venerable oaks, were well suited for the performance of their solemn rites. The approach to the cave, through the arch, which appears partly to be formed by art, has a striking effect, and I think it is not improbable that these caves might have been the habitations of the principal Druids of that district; and if the tops of these cliffs were to be closely examined, I do not doubt but that sufficient Druidical remains would be discovered to confirm my opinion.

Yours, etc., H. R.

[1794, *Part II., p.* 807.]

The engraving (Plate II.) is a view near the entrance of Dovedale, from Ashbourne, in Derbyshire. The ground begins to rise at the above place. Thorpe-cloud and its majestic brethren are conspicuous for many miles round, but are seen to most advantage from the Wirksworth road to Ashbourne. The singular shape of the Cloud, detached from all the surrounding hills, aided by the barrenness of the whole, composes rather a gloomy landscape. It is, perhaps, rather worthy of remark why Nature has thus, in many spots, denied its bounty, and separated, almost by a line, luxuriant verdure from bleak desolation. The contrast in this neighbourhood is particularly marked. Nothing can exceed the richness of the grounds round Ashbourne. Every eminence produces variety. Yet I cannot help thinking much of the beauty of the place is lost, in some instances, by the wretched taste of whitening churches and houses for objects. . . . I am not quite certain whether I am right in the orthography of Thorpe-cloud, as I write it merely from the remembrance of the words as they were pronounced; if I am not, some of your correspondents will oblige me by setting the matter right, and giving the origin of the name. The hill has much the appearance of a volcano—a perfect cone, separated from the chain by the Dove, which makes an elbow at the base of it. A very good road has been carried for some distance up the dale by a gentleman whose name has slipped my memory. Very few places that I have seen present so dreary an aspect as the commencement of Dovedale. This, perhaps, was heightened by my being alone; for my only visit to this place was in the year 1790, when totally unacquainted with the country and its inhabitants. To my shame I have frequently been at Ashbourne since, but never at Dovedale. It was, unfortunately for me, a wet uncomfortable season, and after many attempts I reached the spot represented in the print. The very singular shape of the cone and

those pointed rocks induced me to draw them; no doubt had I advanced I should have been amply gratified by a more variegated scene. My propensity to climb the tremendous sides of the hills was totally damped by hearing the horrid catastrophe of the Dean and lady: a false step is irrecoverable on those steeps.

J. P. MALCOLM.

[1823, *Part I., p.* 603.]

The river Dove, so emphatically described by Cotton as "the princess of rivers," was the spot where he and his friend Walton delighted to lie and angle for trout, and where Cotton, in 1674, erected "a small fishing-house," dedicated to anglers. It is thus described in the notes of the "Complete Angler," edit. 1784, p. 21:

"It is of stone, and the room in the inside a cube of about 15 feet; it is paved with black and white marble. In the middle is a square black marble table, supported by two stone feet. The room is wainscoted, with curious mouldings up to the ceiling; in the larger panels are represented in painting some of the most pleasant of the adjacent fences, with persons fishing; and in the smaller, the various sorts of tackle and implements used in angling. In the further corner, on the left, is a fire-place, with a chimney; and in the right, a large beaufet, with folding-doors, whereon are the portraits of Mr. Cotton, with a boy servant and Walton, in the dress of the time; underneath is a cupboard, on the door whereof are the figures of a trout and also of a grayling, which are well pourtrayed."

But little care having been taken of this highly-distinguished "fishing-house," I am sorry to say it has fallen to ruin. When the well-known and amiable Rev. Dr. John Evans, of Islington, visited this house, the inscription, half-filled with moss, was almost obliterated. "I clambered" (says Dr. Evans*) "through the window with difficulty; but of the interior decorations, alas! no traces were to be found." Yet the person who accompanied him as a guide informed him that the "little building" (as he termed it) was in his remembrance enriched with those rural decorations described above, and that persons were in the habit of visiting it from a considerable distance, even from Scotland.

The scenes on the banks of the Dove are not less romantic than that of any river in England. It rises among hills near the points where the three counties of Stafford, Derby and Chester meet; it has much the quality and appearance of Welsh rivers, which flow from a mountainous origin. The beautifully sequestered dell of Dovedale,† embosomed among bold projecting precipices, whose lofty tops are covered with trees, is situated not far from its source. Emerging from its hollow bed, under the pyramidal mountain of

* "Juvenile Tourist," third edition (1810), p. 218.

† See views of Dovedale in vol. lxiv., pp. 297, 807, 1073.

Thorpe-cloud, it receives the Manifold, which receives the Hamps. Increased by the accession of these rivers, the Dove passes beneath a long picturesque bridge, situated in a most romantic spot, about a mile above the village of Ashbourne, one of the most delightful in England, whether we regard the charms of its situation, or the select society by which it is inhabited. From thence the river runs along in a winding direction through a narrow valley, agreeably diversified by a variety of elegant seats and hamlets. Meandering round the base of the hill on which the celebrated ruins of Tutbury Castle present themselves, it soon after falls into the Trent. From the great declivity of its channel, the water flows with uncommon rapidity, and in some places it dashes precipitately over rugged rocks, shaded with foliage. In others it is distinguished by gentle cascades.

S. T.

Dronfield.

[1795, *Part I.*, *p.* 477.]

Fig. 1 in Plate III. is copied from an old brass in the church at Dronfield, Derbyshire, on which are eight Latin lines, in the old black letter, in memory of John Fanshawe, of Fanshawe Gate, and Margaret, his wife, and seven of their children, one of whom died in 1580. The arms, crests, and figures are not disposed on the stone as they stand in the plate. I accidentally omitted to note their relative situations when I rubbed them off, and therefore thought it better to place them as they are than arrange them wrong. I shall add nothing farther at present relating to Dronfield, as I purpose, with your permission, at a future opportunity to describe the road from Chesterfield to Dronfield. J. P. Malcolm.

[1819, *Part I.*, *p.* 305.]

The neat market-town of Dronfield, in the hundred of Scarsdale, county Derby, is pleasantly situated in a valley remarkable for its salubrity. It is distant 6 miles north-north-west from Chesterfield, and 155 miles from London.

The number of houses in 1811 was 271, of inhabitants 1,343.

There was no church here at the time Domesday Book was compiled, but one was probably erected soon after the Norman Conquest, by one of the family of Brailsford, who early possessed the advowson. Henry de Brailsford bestowed the benefice on the neighbouring abbey of Beauchief. It was appropriated to that monastery in 1399, and a vicarage endowed in 1403.*

Very soon after this regulation was erected the present handsome chancel (see Plate II.), which for beauty and grandeur is exceeded by few parochial churches. It is remarkable that this chancel is

* A copy of the Ordination is given by Dr. Pegge, in his "History of Beauchief Abbey."

more lofty than the nave. All the fine tracery which once, no doubt, ornamented the east window has been barbarously removed.

The church is a handsome Gothic structure, 132 feet long, with a spire.

In the south aisle is an ancient monument to Sir Robert Barley, of Dronfield Woodhouse. In the chancel are memorials of the families of Fanshawe, Burton, Barker of Dore, Morewood of Hallowes, Rotheram, etc.

Dr. Pegge supposed that the rectory of Dronfield was granted to the Fanshawe family. The rectorial tithes have lately been sold to the several landowners. The vicarage, which in 1730 was augmented by Queen Anne's bounty, is in the gift of the Crown.

Henry Fanshawe, Esq., Remembrancer of the Exchequer, founded a free school* here in 1579.

The classics have not been taught here for many years. The school, which is open to boys of any parish, is conducted on Dr. Bell's system. General Fanshawe, an officer in the Russian service, is the present patron of the school, as representative of the founder.

J. P. M.

Duffield.

[1792, *Part I., p.* 13.]

Duffield is a neat little town in Derbyshire, four miles from Derby, in the turnpike-road to Wirksworth; the approach to it finely diversified with cultivation, gentle rises, and fine prospects of the river Derwent meandering through delightful meadows. The church is faithfully represented in the annexed drawing (Plate II.). At this town was formerly a castle, and near it a forest, belonging to the family of Ferrers.† The bridge, of which I also send you an exact drawing, is some little distance from the main street of Duffield, and near the church. It is the road from Derby to Chesterfield, passing Higham, etc. There are three pointed arches of considerable height. The river at this place may be about 120 feet wide, very rapid, and a little above shallow and stony. Here may be said to commence that long chain of rocky hills, of which Matlock, Dovedale, etc., make so conspicuous a part. From the bridge the hill is composed of loose stones and sand, and so steep and difficult of ascent that it is impossible for horses to drag the loaded coaches which pass that way, it is therefore common for the driver to request the passengers to alight; and I think it must be considerably above a mile that we walked before it became sufficiently level to take to the coach. This road must ever remain so, as the soil will ever subject it to

* The Orders for the government of the School are printed in Mr. Carlisle's "Endowed Grammar Schools."

† See Camden, vol. ii., p. 306; from a communication of Mr. Mander to the Society of Antiquaries, 1763.

gullies from the rain rushing down, Indeed, this part of the county is greatly improved of late, by enclosing and fertilizing many of the hills, which formerly presented nothing but stones and heath. Near this place is Winfield manor, a fine old ruin.

Yours, etc., J. P. MALCOLM.

[1792, *Part I., p.* 201.]

I return you the drawing (Plate I.) of Duffield bridge, near Derby, of which an account was given in page 13.

There were at the time of the Norman Conquest a church and priest at Duffield.

The present church is dedicated to St. Alkmund, and once belonged to the collegiate church of Our Lady, in the Newark at Leicester. It contains little worth notice, except an altar-tomb of Sir Roger Minors and his lady; and when I saw the church last there was water in it to the depth of two feet, owing to a flood which had deluged the neighbourhood. J. P. MALCOLM.

Eckington.

[1795, *Part II., p.* 826.]

The village of Eckington lies a few miles to the east of Whittington, so famed for the scene of the revolution in 1688. It is of considerable size, and the rectory is one of the richest in Derbyshire. The Rev. Christopher Alderson, LL.B., is the present incumbent, to whom his successors will be much indebted for the elegant improvements he has made at the rectory, which vies with many of the best houses in the country for real taste in its decorations. Mr. Alderson is very happy in disposing pleasure-grounds, and has been, I am told, employed at Frogmore. Some specimens that I have seen deserve much praise, particularly at Ford House, Derbyshire. He has made as much as he could of the confined limits at Eckington, as will be seen in some degree by the print accompanying this (see Plate II.). Facing the house there is a pretty piece of water, across which he has thrown a handsome bridge, and at one end placed a rustic temple. The church is a good old building, clean, and in repair. It has been much improved by a handsome organ, put up by Mr. Alderson. There are no monuments worthy the attention of an antiquary in Eckington Church. It is in the gift of the Crown.

Yours, etc., J. P. MALCOLM.

Hardwicke Hall.

[1797, *Part I., p.* 280.]

Hardwicke Hall is a grand object in so many points of view, that I have been tempted to present it to your readers (see Plate II.).

Hardwicke was built in the reign of Queen Elizabeth, and

possesses all the features of sublimity that we attach to the fanciful and well-painted edifices of our best romances.

It belongs to the Duke of Devonshire, and is situated in the vicinity of Chesterfield and Mansfield.

"The state apartments, fitted up by the Countess of Shrewsbury for the reception of the Queen of Scots, and on account of the designed visit of Queen Elizabeth, remain in their primitive state, with the original furniture, to this day, and deserve to have a large and accurate account preserved of them, as a means of conveying to the curious, in times to come, an exact idea of the ancient style of living, and of the manners of that peculiar age."*

There are many ancient portraits in a long and magnificent gallery; but the house appears almost too large for our modern mode of living.

The brasses marked Fig. 2 are those described by R. G. in vol. lxiv., p. 15, from Chesterfield Church.

Yours, etc., J. P. M.

Hault Hucknall.

[1799, *Part I., p.* 449.]

As you have lately given us in your entertaining miscellany some curious specimens of ancient churches, I have sent you a drawing (Plate I.) of Hault Hucknall Church, in the county of Derby, which, I think, has evident marks of its great antiquity. The entrance appears to have been at the west end, over which, in a semicircular compartment, are some disproportionate figures in rude sculpture (Fig. 2), which probably refer to some passage in Scripture. Those below, which are on a blackish stone, were undoubtedly intended to represent St. Michael and the Dragon. The position of the tower is very remarkable, being at the east end. May not this be one of the few ancient stone churches built by the Saxons? At least, I should imagine it was erected soon after the Norman Conquest. There is nothing remarkable in the inside except the monument of the famous old Hobbes. On a black marble slab is the following epitaph:

"Condita hic sunt ossa THOMÆ HOBBES, Malmesburiensis qui per multos annos servivit duobus Devoniæ comitibus, patri et filio. Vir probus, et famâ eruditionis domi forisque bene cognitus. Obiit anno Domini 1679, ætatis suæ 91."

The living is a vicarage, in the gift of the Duke of Devonshire, and formerly belonged to the Abbey of Croxton, in Leicestershire, and afterwards to the Priory of Newstead. The parish includes the hamlets of Rowthorn, Stanesby, Astwood, Arstoff, and Hardwicke.

The church is about a mile from Hardwicke Hall, where the Duke and Duchess of Devonshire generally spend two or three months in the autumn with great hospitality. The house is in every respect

* Mr. King, in *Archæologia*, v., 361.

comfortable; and the duchess has of late very judiciously placed all the family pictures in the long gallery, which greatly adds to the respectability of that fine old mansion. H. R.

Kedleston.

[1793, *Part I., p.* 105.]

Kedleston Church (see Plate I.) is a rectory, dedicated to All Saints. The building is more remarkable for the astonishing load of ivy hung upon its walls than for size or beauty of design. It is surrounded by Lord Scarsdale's noble mansion and offices, and has been the place of sepulture for his ancestors for many ages. A number of monuments, some ancient and decayed, and others quite modern, adorn its mouldering walls. There are in the pavement, near the altar, two massive pieces of oak (circular) with rings to lift them. They excited my curiosity, and Lord Scarsdale's servant obligingly lifted them. They closed two Gothic circles; at the bottom of one was a head of stone in chain-armour, in the other a female with drapery folded round the head. There is no inscription near that may lead to who they were, though, no doubt, some of the Curzons. Whether it was a fancy of the designer of the tomb, or that the pavement may have been raised, is now not to be discovered. I have never seen anything of the kind before. Another ancient tomb of the Curzons in this church, on which are the effigies of the persons it was intended to commemorate, with bas-reliefs of their children—as is common on numberless altar-tombs—has given rise to I know not what vulgar tradition of the lady's having had a number of children at a birth, and one dropping somewhere and being lost. I do not contend that I am quite correct in the particulars of this wonderful story, though it has been repeated to me almost every time I mentioned the church when in Derbyshire. The two modern monuments, I think, were designed by Mr. Adams, the architect. They are large, of statuary marble, and beautifully sculptured. Those are near the altar. The old tombs are in a kind of chapel, formed of the south transept of the cross, in which shape the church is built.

Yours, etc., J. P. Malcolm.

Markeaton.

[1805, *Part I., p.* 217.]

I send you (Plate II.) a view of Markeaton Church, in Derbyshire, for a brief description of which your readers are referred to a letter of mine in Vol. LXII., p. 306.

Yours, etc., J. P. M.

Matlock.

[1793, *Part I., pp.* 505, 506.]

The rough and rugged scenes at and near Matlock have afforded such scope to the powers of poetry, painting and description, that I presume such of your readers as have not been there may think very little more can be said on the subject. However, pray indulge me with a page in attempting to describe the road from Chesterfield to Wirksworth. On a sultry day in August last I left Chesterfield, and for some distance was amused in passing along a pleasant road, which at length began to rise and fall over hill and valley in a manner not altogether agreeable. Besides, the vegetation diminished, the trees were less, the luxuriant verdure of the level gave place to brown heath and ragged stones, but, as I had not been to Matlock by this road before, I felt consoled in the hope of soon reaching the commencement of those scenes at once the haunts of business, pleasure and health. But as we are taught that to reach any point of felicity many dangers and fatigues must be encountered, so, in the approach to Matlock, a gloomy variety presents itself. From the tops of the rude, misshapen masses, some of which are of great height, a great extent of country spreads before you, studded with Hardwicke, Bolsover, Chesterfield, Wingerworth, etc. While I remained on the summit the air was sweet and refreshing; I experienced the reviving scents accumulated from myriads of plants. The valleys afford nothing but dust and a most intolerable concentrated heat. The stone walls, too, break the little circulation of air that would otherwise prevail. So desolate is this part of Derbyshire, that for some miles I saw but two or three habitations. What, indeed, but extreme wretchedness could induce a person to live exposed to the keen northern blasts that whirl round those bleak rocks? After descending an almost endless hill, the road makes an elbow, leaving Ashover Church to the left, which peeps beautifully among a group of trees; and here, for a mile or two, Nature gives a rough sketch of what she intends at Matlock. The right side of the road (which now ascends) is moderately level, scattered with cottages and trees; the left, a bold rock adorned with many trees; now the road closing forms a dark passage, composed of houses, trees and rocks, cool and refreshing after a barren ride of upwards of eight miles. Here again the traveller seems to leave the cheerful society of man; he plunges at once into a desert—not a tree or a bush to relieve the black waving horizon. To make the scene still more gloomy, the clouds grew dark, the sun assumed a fiery red, and, as I rode, the dismal tolling of a large bell saluted my ears. Not a mortal near me, the evening approaching; but that I was certain Matlock was not more than two miles before me, I should have been tempted to return, were it only for the comfort of again seeing a living creature

besides my horse. As the ground I was on was much higher than the Torr or any of the hills at Matlock, I was at once surprised and delighted with a grand and awful scene that expanded below me; all the rich profusion of wild Nature thrown together in an assemblage of objects the most sublime. To heighten the view, the Torr and rocks near it were covered with crowds of people. Never did man appear to me before in so humiliating a state; contrasted with the vast piles of rock and mountain, he seemed diminished to a speck, an atom. My curiosity was raised to account for this, I had nearly said, phenomenon: crowds on the summits of places almost inaccessible, never visited but by an adventurous traveller or unlucky boy. Sometimes, indeed, a straggling cow will advance to the verge of the rocks and snuff the air; once I observed one with its fore-feet so near the edge of the Torr that its neck and breast were visible from the road beneath. After viewing with delight this assemblage of Nature's works I began to descend. The way was now lined with houses, and at each step it was amusing to observe Matlock hills rising into consequence till, reaching the bridge, they disappear: when, turning, you view the road you have passed winding up an uncultivated rugged hill, intersected by stone walls. The bridge is plain, strong, and in good repair. Much cannot be said of the town: the houses are comfortable, but much scattered; the church is plain, except the tower, which is rather handsome. Its situation is fine, on the top of a considerable precipice; many trees grow on the abrupt edge and at the bottom. Upon passing the river, you enter the valley in which it glides; each step adds to the beauty of the scene. The road winds close on the river, sometimes hid by a group of trees. The boathouse, placed under a rock and overgrown with foliage, must not pass unnoticed, on viewing the vast and extended wall which towers tremendous before you, unshaken by time, though not impervious to persevering man; for many of the chasms in this pile afford passages to mines, some worked, some neglected. To the right, as you proceed, the hill rises to a great height, nearly uninterrupted by rocks, while the opposite side makes an acute angle, near which is the high Torr. This rock is of an amazing height, and nearly perpendicular; it is pointed at top. For a very great depth this rock is quite bare, and much smoother than any round it; the descent then becomes less abrupt. At the foot a mine is worked, which penetrates a great distance; a shaft meets it from the surface, back of the Torr. The road was now nearly impassable from the crowds of people and carriages; for Sir Richard Arkwright's funeral passed the Torr for Matlock Church, where he is to lie till a chapel now erecting, and begun by him, shall be finished. I no longer wondered at people on the rocks; a better opportunity of judging of the population of this place could not have offered, and it is surprisingly great. The ceremony was conducted with much pomp, and,

as nearly as I can remember, was thus: A coach and four with the clergy; another with the pall-bearers; the hearse, covered with escutcheons, surrounded by mutes, followed; then the horse of the deceased, led by a servant; the relations, and about fifteen or twenty carriages, closed the procession, which was perhaps half a mile in length.

The evening was gloomy, and the solemn stillness that reigned was only interrupted by the rumbling of the carriages and the gentle murmurs of the river; and as they passed, the echo of the Torr gently returned the sound. The whole was so rich and uncommon that I continued to gaze till a turn in the road closed the whole. . . .

Such a variety is there at this place that a particular description is next to impossible. Imagine yourself on the hill, the river beneath, numberless trees in all the various forms that an obstructing rock or a want of support can occasion, a white rock towering far above you; the road, now leading to Cromford, makes a sudden turn close to it; a cotton-mill, with a neat little turret, surrounded by trees, the massy wheel turning slowly, the water foaming from it; at some distance, Sir R. A. Arkwright's house, like a vast castle, with its keep, etc., all embattled; farther, his mills, Cromford Bridge, and the new chapel; behind, a chain of hills, partly covered with wood; opposite the house a huge rock, fantastically adorned with shrubs and trees; through this rock the road is carried with much labour. Such is the scene on leaving Matlock. Proceeding, a long rough hill, lined by new stone houses, makes the traveller regret what he has left. Much to Sir Richard's credit, those habitations are most comfortable. And, if one may judge of prosperity by the insolence met with on this hill (from those who had been to gape at the funeral), surely Cromford is a happy place; but let it be understood, that I believe the holiday had produced this redundancy of wit. After an unpleasant ride over rough ways, which still are compensated by the rich views of Matlock and Sir Richard Arkwright's house, I arrived at Hopton, the hospitable mansion of Mr. Gell, much pleased with my route. . . .

J. P. Malcolm.

[1795, *Part II.*, *p.* 657.]

Permit me to present to your readers a view of that stupendous rock, the Torr at Matlock (Plate III., Fig. 3). . . .

J. P. M.

[1793, *Part II.*, *p.* 885.]

Having seen in your entertaining miscellany some picturesque views in Derbyshire by your ingenious correspondent J. P. Malcolm, I imagine the enclosed drawing of some very singular rocks near Matlock Bath (see Plate II.) may be acceptable to many of your readers.

The traveller who wishes to explore this curious country must quit the trodden path, climb the cragged cliff, and penetrate the dark recess; he will there find ample recompense for his trouble.

The rocks here represented are upon the brow of the hill, directly behind Mason's Bath, but the ground is enclosed with stone walls, which, together with the bushes and brambles that surround the rocks, make the approach rather difficult.

This curious group of rocks evidently appears to have been separated by some violent convulsion in nature, which has also formed several chasms: the projection of the little rock over the great one is very remarkable. From this spot you command a very extensive and pleasing view, I think preferable to any in the neighbourhood of Matlock.

It may be thought extraordinary that no path has been made from the Hall-house to this romantic spot; but, to take off this appearance of neglect in Mr. Mason, who is as attentive to the amusement as he is to the accommodation of his numerous guests, it is necessary to say that the ground behind the house is not his property.

Yours, etc., H. Rooke.

Measham.

[1792, *Part I., p.* 409.]

Measham is situated on the southernmost edge of Derbyshire, 3 miles from Ashby-de-la-Zouch, on the road to Tamworth. It is now, through the exertions of Joseph Wilkes, Esq., a populous village, and the buildings are much improved. It has a market-house, though there is not a regular market; and Mr. Wilkes has built a corn-mill, which is worked to great effect by steam-engines.

"The church (see Plate III.), which formerly belonged to the priory at Greseley, has a modern tower rebuilt upon an ancient body. The living is a donative curacy. Joseph Wilkes, Esq., is patron, who purchased this estate of a Mr. Wollaston. The present minister is the Rev. Thomas Mould, one of the masters of Appleby School, who also holds the curacy of Gresley. — Abney, Esq., has likewise considerable property here, and has built a good house at a small distance from the village called Measham Field, where he resides." —See "Topographer," vol. i., p. 521. S. S.

Norton.

[1818, *Part I., p.* 497.]

The parish of Norton, in the hundred of Scarsdale, and deanery of Chesterfield, is situate 8 miles from Chesterfield, and 4 from Sheffield. It takes its name apparently, according to Dr. Pegge, from its being in the most northern part of Derbyshire.

The church (of which a drawing by the late Mr. Grimm accom-

panies this, see Plate II.) is dedicated to St. James. It was given to the Abbey of Beauchief by its founder, Robert Fitz Ralph, and was appropriated to that monastery, which was distant about 2 miles from Norton. The present impropriator of the great tithes is Samuel Shore, Esq. The present incumbent, Henry Pearson, LL.B., is also patron of the vicarage, which is a discharged living, and is rated in the King's Books at £45 3s. 6d. With the aid of several benefactions, the endowment is now about £150 a year.

In the church is the monument (without inscription) of the father and mother of John Blythe, Bishop of Salisbury, and Geffrey Blythe, Bishop of Lichfield and Coventry (who appear to have been natives of Norton), and the tomb of their elder brother Richard. There are also monuments to the families of Eyre of Bradway, Bullock, Morewood, Gill, Clarke, and Bagshaw.

The number of houses in Norton in 1811 was 300, of families 305, consisting of 1,446 males and 1,527 females.

A satisfactory description of the parish may be seen in Messrs. Lyson's "Topographical Account of Derbyshire," recently published. Yours, etc., N. R. S.

The Peak.

[1780, *pp.* 563, 564.]

If the sketches I have delineated in the subsequent tour through the Peak can convey the faintest idea of the original scenes, I shall have attained the utmost of my ambition.

August 14, 1779.—Arrived at Ashbourne, a neat market-town on the confines of Derbyshire. Rode over in the afternoon to Dovedale, which receives its name from the Dove, a shallow rapid stream that runs through it. At the entrance stands Thorp Cloud, a conical mountain, spotted with sheep. The dale winds continually, the rocks on each side shooting to a very considerable height in the most fantastic shapes. Those on the left are diversified with wood. Observed several caverns here, one of which particularly attracted our attention, a perforated crag rising just above it in the form of a magnificent arch. About a mile from the entrance the dale, suddenly contracting its dimensions, is no wider than the rocky channel of the river, and soon after opens into the meadows where the cattle were grazing. Returning, we descended to Ilam, the residence of Mr. Porte, situated at the entrance of a little vale, beautiful as the Vale of Tempe. A hanging wood in front forms a noble amphitheatre, and behind towers Thorp Cloud, with a rude chaos of mountain behind mountain. A cliff rises on the right, whence the Hamps and the Manifold emerge, having engulfed themselves at a considerable distance. They unite in this sequestered spot, and pre-

sently flow into the Dove. Above is a seat in which Congreve composed his comedy of "The Old Batchelor."

August 15.—The scene beyond Ashbourne is dreary and desolate; the hedges are of stone,* and not a tree is visible, except a few circular plantations on the mountains. The celebrated medicinal springs of Buxton rise here in a bleak valley, near which is Pool's Hole, a cavern above 200 yards in length. The entrance is small, but soon opens into a lofty vault, decorated with stalactites, spars, and petrifactions. The air, however, within is intensely cold, and the passage craggy and dangerous.

August 16.—Having passed Fairfield, we proceeded on the left through enclosures to Tidswell, a singular pool that ebbs and flows. Soon after our arrival the water gushed from several cavities at once for the space of five minutes. The phenomenon is occasioned by the discharge of a subterraneous reservoir, supplied by springs through a channel in the form of a syphon. Hence we directed our course to Elden Hole, a dreadful chasm, near 80 fathoms deep, not far from which rises Mam-Torr, or the Shivering Mountain, so called from the shivers of stones swept by the wintry storms from its summit. Through a wild and romantic avenue, the correspondence of the opposite sides of which suggests the idea that they have been separated by a convulsion of nature, we at length descended into a fertile valley, encircled by mountains. On the right appears Castleton, near which is a noble cavern, 750 yards in length; the mouth, in which are a few huts, is 40 yards wide, and 14 high. We entered, and, having passed two rivulets, advanced, by a gentle declivity, till we arrived on the banks of a considerable stream, to the surface of which the rock descends. The proprietor of this curious cavity having concluded from the sound that there is another at no great distance, is endeavouring to effect a communication by gunpowder. It was now dry, but in the rainy season the water rises in it above 6 feet. The light, faintly glimmering in our return, had a fine effect. Omiah, when he accompanied Mr. Banks and Dr. Solander hither in the year 1775, broke off a protuberance of the rock to preserve as a memorial. On the brow of the mountain above we observed the ruins of a castle. The ascent from Castleton is exceedingly steep, a small vale appearing beneath, in the centre of which spires Hope Steeple on the margin of a meandering brook that issues from the cavern. From a precipice on the right, within a mile of the village of Ashford, we saw Monsall Dale, green as an emerald, winding between the mountains, and fertilized by the lively river Wye, on the brink of which stands a picturesque farmhouse, shaded by a few trees. Passed through Bakewell, beyond which Haddon Hall, belonging to the Duke of Rutland, presents its venerable front on an

* See this expression in Johnson's "Journey to the Western Islands of Scotland," p. 22.

eminence in a grove of oaks. Arrived in the dusk of the evening at Matlock Bath.

August 17.—The scenery of Matlock Dale, through which the Derwent thunders in a continual cataract, is inconceivably sublime. Lofty rocks, fringed with foliage of the liveliest verdure, rise perpendicularly on each side. Visited Chatsworth, the seat of the Duke of Devonshire, a grand stone fabric delightfully situated. The shrubbery is disposed with taste, but the jets-d'eau are extremely puerile. The bleak summits of the mountains appearing above the woods form an agreeable contrast.

August 18.—Through a pleasant country we proceeded to Derby, situated on the Derwent, in which are a china manufacture and a silk-mill, erected by Sir Thomas Lombe, who imported the model from Italy.

August 19.—Rode over to Kedleston, an elegant modern structure, the seat of the Earl of Scarsdale. The situation, however, is not fine. S. R.

[1764, *pp.* 570-572.]

Peaks Hole, commonly called the Devil's A——se, is a stupendous cavern approached through an avenue that appears to be the effect of some violent convulsion of nature; the rock, which is of marble, having divided asunder, and receded to the right and left, (as it were) to expose to the view of the curious inquirer the most solemn and capacious recess that has hitherto been discovered in this or perhaps any other country.

The perpendicular height of this rock is said to be 240 feet, on the right and left there is a gradual declivity from the summit, which terminates in the level of the adjacent plain, and in the sides of these declivities are sundry crevices, of irregular dimensions, that were once filled with some kind of metallic matter, but are now exhausted of the ore, and afford a clear idea of the form in which those substances lie concealed in the womb of nature.

The entrance into Peaks Hole is at the extreme part of this awful avenue, which the two declivities form, and somewhat resembles an irregular Gothic arch. The first apartment has a vaulted roof, perhaps 60 feet high and 200 feet wide, and out of it flows a stream of water, which is greater or less as the season is wet, or otherwise; at this time* it was small, the summer having been remarkably dry. At other times, I am informed, it has been almost instantaneously so great, as not only to sweep away the huts of the packthread spinners,† which are here scattered on the floor, but endanger the lives of those who inhabit them.

In this apartment (which indeed is the only one where the rays of

* The third of August, 1762.

† Many families of poor people reside here and spin packthread for a livelihood.

the sun, since the creation of light, entered) you are entertained with variety of figures on the sides, and in the roof, produced by the petrifactive quality of the water oozing through the rock, which the imagination of the observer is to finish into such resemblances as his own ideas suggest. For my own part, that which has obtained the name of the bacon flitch appeared to resemble the drooping of a festoon curtain—and so of the rest.

The figure, or shape of this apartment, resembles the concavity of a scollop shell, the lofty entrance gradually diminishing to a height of about 2½ feet which obligeth you to stoop almost double to pass. But this strait is of no considerable length, for, advancing a few yards, you are released from the uneasy posture, by a well extended space, and to this second apartment are accompanied by the inhabitants a numerous family, of different ages and sexes, who, to the number of fifty, and upwards, attend you with small tapers. The grotesque figures of your attendants, moving with solemn pace to the music of the hautboy reverberated from the vaulted roof, has somewhat so awful and unusual in it that it cannot be described.

Having proceeded thus far, a new and almost dreadful scene ensues, for here you are stopped by a stream of water, 24 feet wide, and 5 feet deep, which, issuing out of the side of the rock to the right hand, is engulphed on the left without your being able to perceive either the aperture from whence it flows, or that through which it passes to the mouth of the cave (the place of its discharge) into the neighbouring valley.

On this rivulet you separately embark in a kind of oval tub, the sides whereof are about 8 inches deep, the length sufficient to receive the tallest person; and on a bed of straw, with which the bottom is covered, you lie prostrate on your backs, with candles in your hands, committing yourselves to the direction of a pilot, who goes into the water and pushes the float forward till the depth of the stream obstructs his progress, then with a strong percussion he drives the tub from him through a pass where the distance between rock and water does not exceed 18 inches. The well-exerted energy of your pilot's arm having thus driven you across the stream to the opposite shore, you are received by another person, who stands ready to aid your debarkation; here you land on a very unhospitable coast abounding with large stones, covered with a slimy moisture, which render your steps precarious, and perseverance hazardous, and the cave immediately expands to the height of 60 feet, by more than thrice that width. To this gloomy region you are welcomed by a set of choristers, who, having by some concealed avenue clambered up to a sort of natural gallery in the summit of the cavern, chant doleful ditties suitable to the occasion, with tapers burning in their hands. . . .

Passing a considerable space over this irregular pavement of loose stones, separated from the roof, perhaps many ages past, by causes we cannot investigate, assisted by a person at each arm to aid your steps, you arrive at a second rivulet, which, from the dryness of the season, was now fordable, on the backs of the guides, who accustomed to such burdens, seldom make a false step. At some distance from this brook you come to a sandy hill thrown up by the vast confluence of water that at certain seasons of the year rises in this place to the height of 5 or 6 feet perpendicular, flowing from a third rivulet mentioned below. This sand-hill forms a declivity of 50 yards in length, and is, I suppose, a deposit of the floods occasioned by heavy rains which, passing through the crevices of the mountain with great precipitation, sweep along the sandy particles of the rock, and the rapidity of the water receiving a check in this part of the cavern the heavier bodies have time to subside.

At the foot of this hill the cave forms an acute angle to the right, having a rill of water running between two sandy banks, which leads you to the extremity of these dreary regions, at the distance of 750 yards from the place of entrance. The extremity terminates in a kind of natural semicircular vault, whose elevation, I presume, may be 4 feet, and diameter 8. Here, likewise, is a rivulet, which, issuing from one side of the cave, is partly absorbed by the rock on the other side, and partly flows between the sandy banks, I have just now mentioned, to the foot of the sand-hill, where it is swallowed up. This vault is almost filled with water, how far it extends I cannot precisely determine, but believe it to be of no great length, for having impressed the water, contained therein with a progressive motion, a noise deep and sonorous succeeded, that greatly heightened the horrors of the place, and must have been occasioned by the repercussion, which the sides and extremity of the vault gave to the agitated water. The vibration thereby produced, impressing the circumambient air with a corresponding motion, it was returned to the ear from every part of this vast concave with a sound resembling distant thunder; the time in which this was effected being no more than a few seconds, it may reasonably be concluded the length of this arch is not considerable. . . .

[1772, *pp.* 518, 519.]

Having heard much of this wonderful curiosity in Nature, I was long ago desirous of seeing it, but never had the wished-for opportunity till in the beginning of October, when my business led me through that part of the country where it is, and the following account is the best I can give, from short notes taken down in the different parts of it, as my conductor or guide informed me, who seemed to be very intelligent, and behaved with the greatest degree of civility.

The entrance into this complicated cavern is through an almost regular arch, 12 yards high, formed by Nature at the bottom of a rock whose height is 87 yards. Immediately within this arch is a cavern of the same height, 40 yards wide, and above 100 in length. The roof of this place is flattish, all of solid rock, and looks dreadful overhead, because it has nothing but the natural side-walls to support it. A packthread manufactory is therein carried on by poor people, by the light that comes through the arch.

Toward the further end from the entrance the roof comes down with a gradual slope to about 2 feet from the surface of a water 14 yards over, the rock in that place forming a kind of arch under which I was pushed by my guide across the water in a long, oval tub as I lay on my back in straw, with a candle in my hand, and was for the greatest part of the way on the river so near the arched roof that it touched my hat, if I raised my head but two inches from the straw on which I lay in the tub (called the boat), which, I believe, was not above a foot in depth.

When landed on the further side of this water and helped out of the boat by my guide, I was conducted through a low place into a cavern 70 yards wide and 40 yards high, in the top of which are several openings upwards, reaching so high that I could not see to their tops. On one side of this place I saw several young lads, with candles in their hands, clambering up a very rough, stony ascent, and they disappeared when about half-way up. I asked my guide who they were, and he told me they were the singers, and that I would soon see them again, for they were going through an opening that led into the next cavern.

At 87 yards from the first water I came to a second, 9½ yards broad, over which my guide carried me on his back. I then went under three natural arches, at some distance from one another, and all of them pretty regular; then entered a third cavern, called Roger Rain's House, because there is a continual dropping at one side of it, like a moderate rain. I no sooner entered that cavern than I was agreeably surprised by a melodious singing, which seemed to echo from all sides, and on looking back I saw the above-mentioned lads in a large round opening called the chancel, 19 yards above the bottom where I stood. They sing for what the visitors please to give them as they return.

At the top of a steep, rugged, stony ascent on one side of this cavern I saw a small irregular hole, and asked my guide whether there was another cavern beyond it? He told me there was, but that few people ventured to go through into it on account of the frightful appearance at the top of the hole, where the stones seemed to be almost loose, as if ready to fall and close up the passage. I told him that if he would venture through, I would follow him. So I did, creeping flat, the place being rather too low to go on all fours.

We then got into a long, narrow, irregular, and very high cavern, which has surprising openings, of various shapes at top, too high to see how far they reach.

We returned through the hole into Roger Rain's house again, and from thence went down 50 yards lower, on wet sand, wherein steps are made for convenience, at the bottom of which we entered into a cavern called the Devil's Cellar, in which, my guide told me, there had been many bowls of good rum punch made and drunk, the water having been heated by a fire occasionally made there for that purpose. In the roof of this cellar is a large opening through which the smoke of the fire ascends, and has been seen by the people above-ground to go out at the top of the rock: but this opening is so irregular and crooked that no stone let down into it from the top was ever known to fall quite through into the cavern.

From this place I was conducted a good way onward, under a roof too low to let one walk upright, and then entered a cavern called the Bell, because the top of it is shaped somewhat like the side of a bell. From thence I was conducted through a very low place into a higher, in the bottom of which runs a third water, and the roof of that place slopes gradually downward, till it comes within five inches of the surface of the running water under it. My guide then told me that I was just 207 yards below the surface of the ground, and 750 yards from the first entrance into the rock, and there was no going any further. Throughout the whole I found the air very agreeable, and warm enough to bring on a moderate perspiration, although in less than a fortnight before all the caverns beyond the first river (where I was ferried under the low arch) had been filled to a considerable height with water during a flood occasioned by great and long-continued rains.

JAMES FERGUSON.

[1764, *pp.* 572, 573.]

Pool's Hole is said to have taken its name from one Pool, a notorious robber, who, being outlawed, secreted himself here from justice; but others will have it that Pool was some hermit, or anchorite, who made choice of this dismal hole for his cell. It is situated at the bottom of a lofty mountain called Coitmos, near Buxton. The entrance is by a small arch, so very low, that such as venture into it are forced to creep upon their hands and knees, but it gradually opens into a vault more than a quarter of a mile long, and, as some have pretended, a quarter of a mile high. It is certainly very lofty, and looks not unlike the inside of a Gothic cathedral. In a cavern to the right, called Pool's chamber, there is a fine echo, though it does not appear of what kind it is; and the sound of a current of water, which runs along the middle of the great vault,

being reverberated on each side, very much increases the astonishment of all who visit the place. Here, on the floor, are great ridges of stones; water is perpetually distilling from the roof and sides of this vault, and the drops, before they fall, produce a very pleasing effect, by reflecting numberless rays from the candles carried by the guides. They also, from their quality, form crystallizations of various forms, like the figures of fretwork; and in some places, having been long accumulated one upon another, they have formed large masses, bearing a rude resemblance to men, lions, dogs, and other animals.

In this cavity is a column, as clear as alabaster, called Mary Queen of Scots Pillar, because it is pretended she went in so far; and beyond it there is a steep ascent for near a quarter of a mile, which terminates in a hollow in the roof, called the needle's eye, in which, when the guide places his candle it looks like a star in the firmament. If a pistol be fired near the queen's pillar, the report will be as loud as a cannon. There is another passage by which people generally return. Not far from this place are two springs, one cold and the other hot, but so near one another, that the thumb and finger of the same hand may be put into both streams at the same time

Repton.

[1792, *Part I., p.* 409.]

Repton, 4 miles east of Burton-on-Trent, and 7 miles south-west of Derby, is a large and good country town, with a handsome church, particularly eminent for a tall taper spire (see Plate III.), which, as it emerges above the hills and woods from most part of the surrounding country, forms a very beautiful object. A different view of this church, and of a famous brick tower of the priory, with a particular history of that ancient religious house, may be seen in the "Topographer," vol. ii., pp. 249, 263. S. S.

[1811, *Part I., pp.* 105, 106.]

I request a place for a short description of Repton Priory, and the school now founded on its site (see Plate I.).

At so distant a period as the Saxon Heptarchy, Repton (or "Reopandun" as it was then called) is mentioned in the scanty chronicles of the times, as we learn from the extracts preserved by Leland, and given in his Collectanea. It was not only the palace of the Saxon monarchs of Mercia, but the seat of a noble monastery of religious men and women before the year 660; of which palace, or monastery considerable foundations are discoverable, both in the priory and adjoining churchyard, when any alterations have been made in the school-buildings, or vaults been dug in the churchyard. The palace and monastery being laid waste and destroyed by the Danes, the priory was re-edified in the year 1172, by Matilda, widow of

Ranulph, second earl of Chester, and continued in a flourishing condition till the dissolution by Henry VIII., when it was found to be possessed of revenues to the amount of £167 18s. The site of the priory, and its possessions in Repton, were granted to Thomas Thacker, Esq., servant to Henry VIII., in whose family it continued till the year 1728, when, by the bequest of Miss Thacker, heiress to Gilbert Thacker, Esq., the Priory estate in Repton was conveyed to the family of Burdett of Foremark, in which it still continues.

Sir John Port, of Etwall, Knight of the Bath (so created at the coronation of Edward VI.), who was possessed by marriage and inheritance of great property in the counties of Stafford, Derby, and Lancaster, having lost his two sons at an early age, and being minded to bestow some part of his estates in charitable foundations for the repose of his soul, in the year 1556 devised to his executors, Sir Thomas Giffard, Richard Harpur, Esq., and others, certain estates in the counties of Derby and Lancaster, for the foundation of an hospital at Etwall, and a Free Grammar school at Repton. These institutions were accordingly established after his death, in the year 1557, and continued by Queen Mary's license, under the direction of the Harpur family, till the year 1621, when, by an agreement between Sir John Harpur on the one part, and the Earl of Huntingdon, Lord Stanhope, and Sir Thomas Gerard, Bart., on the other, the three several descendants of Sir John Port's three daughters, the superintendence, after the death of Sir John Harpur, was conveyed to the right heirs of the founder. By the petition of the co-heirs, the hospital and school, in the year 1621, were made a body corporate, by the style and title of "The Master of Etwall Hospital, the Schoolmaster of Repton, Ushers, Poor Men, and Poor Scholars;" and, in consequence of that settlement, the estates were conveyed by Sir John Harpur to the Corporation, and in that body are now vested. The foundation, from the improved state of its revenues, at present maintains a Master of the Hospital (in whom the power of receiving the rents, and paying the stipends, is vested), a Master of the School, two Ushers, sixteen Poor Men in the Hospital, and nineteen Poor Scholars at Repton. The entire superintendence of the school and hospital is hereditary in the families of the Earls of Chesterfield and Moira, and Sir William Gerard, the representatives and co-heirs of Sir J. Port's three daughters, who have the power of regulating the Corporation, and electing the Master of the Hospital, Schoolmaster, and Ushers; but a grant of a fourth turn with them in the appointment only of poor men and poor scholars was made by the charter to the family of Harpur of Calke.

The village of Repton is pleasantly situated in a valley, washed by a rapid trout stream that rises in the Pistern hills, about six miles distant southward. At the northern extremity of the village, on an elevation overlooking the adjacent country and river Trent, stands

the parish church, of which a view is given in your Volume LXII., page 409.

Adjoining to the church stand the remains of the priory, now converted into a grammar-school and houses for masters. The entrance from the village to the monastery is through a gateway with a Pointed arch, into the schoolyard (formerly called the Infirmary Yard); the eastern side of which is occupied by a long range of building, with habitations at the northern end for the schoolmaster; and the southern, for the first usher. In the middle is the school-room, ascended by a flight of steps at the south end, which was once the hall, or refectory, of the Priory. It was formerly lighted on each side by plain round-headed windows, in the Norman style, without mouldings or architrave, with narrow apertures outwardly, but inwardly more widely expanding. The hall was supported by a row of massive round pillars, in the Saxon style, ornamented with capitals, carved in various patterns, evidently of very ancient date, which formerly extended to the end of the hall; but several were removed some years since, by alterations made in the first usher's house.

The dormitory was at the north end of the hall, in which is remaining a small room, with a coved ceiling of stone, in the Saxon style, and a carved keystone in the centre. On the eastern side of the Priory was placed the cloister, the area of which is now converted into a garden, with some faint traces of apertures and doorways in the surrounding walls; one of these, in the north-eastern corner, opened from the prior's lodge into the cloister; the other, on the east, into the Priory-church, which stood on the south side of the cloisters, and, from the pillars now laid open, appears to have been an elegant structure, in the light florid style that prevailed in the reign of Edward III.

At the west end of the church is a square massive tower, apparently of very ancient date, now forming the entrance into the school, with narrow round-arched windows. Whether there was a corresponding tower on the opposite side of the entrance to the church cannot now be ascertained, as much devastation has been made at the western extremity of the church. The Priory-church was built in the form of a cross, with four large clustered pillars between the nave and choir; the lower part of three of which, about five feet high, are still remaining. By admeasurement made from the remains, the church appears to have extended 180 feet, and upwards, from west to east; the length of the transepts, from cross walls built on them, and ruin made of them, cannot be ascertained.

This structure was demolished in the beginning of Queen Mary's reign, by Mr. Thacker, as we are informed by Fuller, in his "Church History," p. 358. In the adjoining paddock, inclosed on three sides by a strong stone wall, extending over several acres, are the founda-

tions of other buildings belonging to the Priory. One vault only is remaining perfect; in which is a round-headed doorway, leading into the cloisters. At the northern end of the Priory-yard, on a deserted channel of the Trent, and appearing in the view through the trees, is a mansion, rebuilt by the Thackers about a century ago, upon the foundation of the Prior's lodge. The only unaltered part of the original building is a brick tower, of the age of Henry VI., which is to be ranked among the earliest specimens remaining, built with such materials as bricks. The lower room in it, now a kitchen, exhibits a ceiling divided into square compartments, the intersections of which are ornamented with crests and badges of different priors, carved in oak; one of these is the rebus and initial letter of Overton, prior in the reign of Edward VI. In the windows are remaining several pieces of painted glass, all charged with the figure of an eagle, the crest, perhaps, of some prior or benefactor. The Prior's lodge, of late years, has been rented of Sir Francis Burdett, and appropriated to the residence of the headmaster of the school.

That part of the Priory now remaining, and closely adjoining to the mansion-house, was sold by Mr. Thacker, in Philip and Mary's reign, to the executors of Sir John Port; and with some of the old possessions of the Priory, appropriated to the advancement of learning; which, as was the case in several other religious houses, had, doubtless, some encouragement among the canons at Repton; and which, by the care of the pious re-founder, has again taken root, and continued to flourish in the place, till the present time.

REPTONENSIS.

Shirland.

[1795, *Part I., p.* 477.]

Fig. 2 is in the chancel of Shirland Church, Derbyshire, near the monument below, but whether it refers to the tomb or not I cannot decide. I fancy it may represent two priests saying masses for the soul of the deceased occupier of the monument, for there is a repetition of the figures in the blank (see Vol. LXIV., p. 209), to which also I refer for an account of the monument at the bottom of the plate. Yours, etc., J. P. MALCOLM.

[1794, *Part I., pp.* 209, 210.]

The parish church of St. Leonard, Shirland, is a small but handsome building. Whether the present be that of which Reginald de Grey possessed the advowson in the time of Edward II. I cannot inform you, but it is certainly of considerable antiquity.

Shirland is a rectory, and the late incumbent, who died at a very advanced age, was the Rev. Thomas Fidler.

If you like legendary tales, the vulgar will tell you a good one. There is a field, which I have been in, near the town, called the

Church Field. They say the church was primarily erected there, but that in one night it was carried away and safely placed in its present situation.

In the chancel are the remains of a shamefully-mutilated figure in armour. The Gothic arch under which it lies is uncommonly elegant, and decorated with pinnacles. Near it, in the wall, is a bas-relief of four figures before an altar, but whether it has any reference to the tomb I cannot decide. This monument is another instance of the abominable license permitted to clowns in country churches. One would almost suppose that this unfortunate knight had been mistaken for the decayed representation of their tutelar saint, they have so carefully picked him to pieces, supposing his fragments to possess supernatural qualities. All that now lies, as a memorial of a person once of consequence, is the trunk. There are no remains of an inscription.

I may add, as a mark of the antiquity of this church, that on a Sunday not long since a large beam fell down over the singing-gallery and had it been ten minutes sooner, might have been the destruction of several sopranos, contra-tenors, and bassos. . . .

J. P. Malcolm.

Smisby.

[1792, *Part I., p.* 409.]

Smisby is situated at the southern extremity of Derbyshire, on the borders of Leicestershire, two miles from Ashby-de-la-Zouch. It formerly belonged to the ancient family of Kendal, who had a large stone mansion here, some of whose walls are represented in Plate III. This estate some years ago was sold to the Harpurs, and Sir Henry Harpur, Bart., of Calke, near adjoining, is the present owner. The house, being gone to decay, is now only used by a farmer. The living is a donative curacy of small value, but has been augmented by Queen Anne's bounty. The present curate is the Rev. Mr. Thomas, of Ravenston. In the church are several fine old monuments belonging to the Kendals. For further particulars of this place see "Topographer," vol. ii., p. 158.

Staveley.

[1820, *Part II., pp.* 577-580.]

Staveley is a neat village, very pleasantly situated, about four miles midway between Chesterfield and Bolsover, co. Derby. It contains within its parish the chapelry of Barlow, the hamlets of Netherthorp and Woodthorp, with three of the name of Hundley, containing altogether about 408 houses.

In Domesday Book, among the lands of Ascuit Musard, it is said that, in the manor of "Stavelie, Hacon had four carucates of land to be taxed; land to four ploughs. Ascuit has now there, in the

demesne, three ploughs, and twenty-one villanes; and seven bordars have four ploughs. There is a Priest and a Church; and one mill of five shillings and four pence. There are sixty acres of meadow; wood pasture one mile and a half long, and as much broad. Value in King Edward's time, and now, six pounds." *

In the reign of Edward I. the manor of Staveley belonged to John Musard.† Issue male failing in his successor, N. Musard, the eldest sister of the latter conveyed it by marriage to T. Freschville, a branch of that family who were Barons of Crich in the reign of Henry III. and came over with the Conqueror from a place of that name in Normandy.

Staveley Hall was built by Sir Peter Freschville, who died, according to his monument, in 1634. His son, John Freschville, during the troubles of Charles I. garrisoned his house at Staveley for the king. John Vickars, in his "Parliamentary Chronicle," page 437, says: "Immediately after this (the surrender of Bolsover Castle), they all marched to Staley House, which was strongly fortified; but upon our armies' advance to it, it was soon surrendered, upon articles of agreement; and in it we had twelve pieces of ordnance, two hundred and thirty muskets, and a hundred and fifty pikes: and Mr. John Fretchwell (who had long held the house fortified with strong works for the service of the King), being then convinced of the goodness of our cause, did very freely and voluntarily render to the Major-general all the arms aforesaid, with much other ammunition." Thus the historian. John Freschville, Esq., however, who was also a Governor of York during the civil wars, for his attachment to Charles I. was advanced by Charles II. to the dignity of a baron of the realm, by the title of Lord Freschville, of Staveley. He dying in 1682, the manor of Staveley passed (by marriage, I believe) into the Cavendish family, who, having other seats, resolved, about seventy years ago, to pull down the hall; but its total dilapidation was prevented, and the present mansion a wing of a large quadrangle, suffered to remain, at the instance of the Rev. James Gisborne, then Rector of Staveley, who thus unconsciously preserved a residence for two of his daughters who were afterwards married, one to Mr. Foxlow, the other to the Rev. F. Dixon, LL.D., all deceased. It is at present the residence of the Rev. F. Foxlow, son of the preceding.

The church (see the Plate), which is built in form of a parallelogram, contains an ichnographical site of about 45 yards by 12. It consists of a nave, chancel, and one side-aisle. The tower, which appears to have been built in 1681, contains eight exceedingly musical bells. The tenor, weighing 18 cwt. 3 qrs. 22 lbs., was given by the present rector, and the peal were opened when the present Duke of Devonshire attained the age of twenty-one. His Grace is patron of

* Orig. Dom. Boc. 277. b. 2.—"Bawdwen's Trans.," p. 322.

† A name which implies, according to Camden, *doubters or delayers.*

the church, which is dedicated to St. John the Baptist. The body has lately been newly paved, a gallery built, and the whole interior beautified, containing at present as neat and comfortable accommodation for public worship as any village church in the kingdom.

The following monuments and inscriptions are to be seen :—

In a niche in the north wall of the chancel, on a brass, with two large figures and seven boys and as many girls in a praying attitude, are these words :

"Sancta Maria, ora pro nobis ; O mater Dei, memento mei."

The inscription :

Here under fote lieth the bodys of Peyrs Freychwell, and Maude his wyf, and sume time squier unto the noble and excellent prince King Henry the vi. and Lord and Patron of this chirche, which Peyrs deceasyd the xxb day of Marche, the yere of our lord, M.D.XL. on whose souls Jh'u, habe mercy. Amen.

On a large decaying marble tomb, close by the above, containing the arms of Freschville with various quarterings and a brass plate on the top, representing an armed warrior, standing with his hands clasped in a praying posture, with the words :

"* * * Trinitas un' deus miserere nobis. Deus mittere esto * * peccatum."

On a brass border there only remained the following :

"* * * Amabus Petri Frechwell, d'ni. * * * Derb. Armig'i qui obiit [a space never filled] die mensi [ditto] anno Domini Mill'mo CCCC. [ditto] et Matilde uxoris ejus. Quorum animabus propicietur Deus. Amen."

On a massy marble monument the following :

"Here lieth the mortal parte of the Right Honourable John Lord ffrescheville, Baron of Staveley, Governor of York, and descended from the antient and noble ffamilies of the ffreschevilles, Barons of Crich, and of the Musards, Barons of Staveley, who departed this life, Mar. 31, anno D'ni 1682, aged 76 years. Anne Charlotte, Lady ffrescheville, in memory of her deerest lord and husband, caused this monument to be erected."

On a gilded board there is a memorial of a former wife of this John, who was a daughter of Francis Nicolls, Esq., of Ampthill, co. Bedford. She died April 10th, 1629, aged only eighteen years. There are various other memorials of the Freschvilles.

A beautiful altar-tomb, with a recumbent figure of a lady and infant, is thus inscribed :

"Here lyes the mortal part of Christian Lady St. John, late wife of Charles Lord St. John, Baron of Bazinge, and daughter of John Freschville, Esq., who in memory of his dearest childe, caused these stones to be laid together. She died in childbed, the 22d of July, 1653. Her infant, John Pawlet, surviving his mother seven dayes, lyes here interred with her."

A marble slab on the north wall records the death, virtues, and marriages of his wives, and his own death, of the Rev. James Gisborne, M.A., Prebendary of Durham, and forty-three years rector of this church ; he died September 7th, 1759, aged 70.

On a mural tablet over the communion table:

"Within these rails is interred the body of James Gisborne, the oldest surviving son of the late Rev. James Gisborne, a member of the Irish House of Commons, Lieutenant-general and Governor of Charlmont in Ireland. He married Mary Anne Boyd, daughter and co-heiress of Charles Boyd, Esq. of the kingdom of Ireland. He left issue one son and three daughters, &c. &c."

Adjacent there is a marble tablet to the "memory of Catherine, wife of the Rev. Fletcher Dixon, of Staveley Hall, and vicar of Duffield, in this county." She was daughter of the above James Gisborne. The Rev. F. Dixon, LL.D., died at Staveley Hall, January 5th, 1819, aged 75. He was a man beloved and esteemed by all who knew him, and his death has left a blank in the charitable distributions of the village which its inhabitants will long regret. . . . [Some epitaphs are given here which we omit.]

A headstone in the churchyard commemorates the name and death of Robert Sampson, the not altogether "mute, inglorious Milton," and laureate of the village, and although, Mr. Urban, his fame may not have reached any of your readers, I can assure them and you that he really was "famous once for verse," as various churchyards can testify, where his works may probably outlive those of many who have figured more splendidly in wire-wove paper and gilt and lettered binding. He was a wandering dealer in earthenware by his trade, well known, and woe to the reputation of the luckless wight who happened to provoke the lampooning propensity of our poet. Some bitter tetrastic was sure to haunt him from the mouths of the rustics wherever he went. I apologize for this trifling. His epitaph is as follows [omitted].

On a blue slate at the east end of the church is the following inscription:

"To the memory of Mr. Richard Robinson, son of the Rev. James Robinson of Knuttsford in Cheshire, and Schoolmaster at Netherthorpe, in this parish. Endowed with uncommon abilities, he exerted them for fifty years in the duties of his School, with a diligence and assiduity still more to be admired; and although in an humble station, might be regarded as a very bright example of primeval integrity of life. He gave by his last will eighteen pounds a year to the Hospital at Woodthorp; besides other very considerable legacies; and died a bachelor, May 21, 1777, in the 70th year of his age."

The present rector is the Rev. Francis Gisborne, M.A., son of the before-mentioned J. Gisborne, late rector of Staveley, and is, I believe, cousin to the excellent and valuable author, T. Gisborne, of Yoxall Lodge, co. Stafford. His brother was the late Dr. Gisborne, of Romely Hall, in this county, and physician to his Majesty. . . .

He was born at Staveley, and received the rudiments of his education at Netherthorp School, under the before-mentioned R. Robinson, who left Mr. Gisborne the bulk of his fortune. From hence he went to Peter House, Cambridge,* when the collegians, by their mimicry

* He is the person, I believe, who gave the munificent donation of £22,000 as mentioned in a late number of your magazine, to St. Peter's College.

of Gray's effeminate manner, had driven him from his college. The bard readily gave up his rooms to Mr. Gisborne,* who was always a grave man, and even then stood aloof from this indiscretion of his companions.

Few villages have been more fortunate in the charitable dispositions of its opulent inhabitants than Staveley, doles, alms, and eleemosynary gifts being constant and frequent. There are several tables of benefactions in the church, which are a constant memorial and incentive to the families of the benefactors to emulate the charity of their predecessors.

There is a brass plate in the body of the church, of which the following is a copy:

"Memorie Sacrum. anno Dom. 1677. Whereas the right worshipful Sir Peter Freschville, Knt. and others of the parish of Staveley, in the county of Derby, did by their Deed indented, dated anno 1610, out of their charitable disposic'ons give the sum of forty pounds, the use whereof to be employed for the putting forth of poor children of the poor inhabitants of the said parish to be bound apprentices to honest trades and occupac'ons: *Therefore*, we whose names are inscribed, out of the like charitable inclination, have given the several sums here under written, as well for an addition to the forementioned pious purpose of binding apprentices to good trades, as for a yearly distribution of monies to be dealt amongst the poor inhabitants of the said parish, &c."

Then follows the names of sixty-four donors of various sums, to be applied as the preamble sets forth.

There is an hospital at Woodthorp for four poor aged men and the same number of poor women, and a reader, which was built by Sir Peter Freschville, and endowed by his last will, each of the said nine persons to receive £4 per annum at quarterly payments, chargeable on lands in Netherthorp and Woodthorp. In 1777 Richard Robinson, schoolmaster, gave £18 a year to this foundation, which, with other additions, produces £8 per annum for each person.

There is a free Grammar School at Netherthorp which has been endowed at several times. In 1572 Margaret Freschville gave £8 per annum; in 1599 Francis Sitwell, of Netherthorp, gent., gave £6 per annum; in 1742 Lord James Cavendish gave £6 per annum. These sums, with augmentations, produce a competent salary for a classical master. The abilities of the before-mentioned Mr. Robinson drew him many pupils, for whose benefit he exerted himself with unremitting zeal, and realized a considerable fortune. There is, I believe, at present *one* scholar on the foundation! . . .

J. H.

Stoney Middleton.

[1803, *Part II.*, *p.* 621.]

If you will permit a little modern octagon chapel to accompany your curious and venerable ancient churches, the enclosed sketch of

* For a character of this worthy Divine, see our Poetical Department.

that at Stoney Middleton, in the county of Derby (Plate II., fig. 1), is very much at your service. It was built by subscription in 1758, on the site of the old church, the tower of which still remains. It is dedicated to St. Martin, and is a chapel of ease to Hathersage.

Yours, etc., H. R.

Stydd.

[1865, *Part II., p.* 266.]

In a late ramble in Derbyshire, I paid a visit to Stydd, near Ashbourne, where are the remains of a chapel, consisting of a part of the south wall, with several pointed windows in the style of the thirteenth century with clustered columns, and their capitals beautifully foliated—the whole in very fine preservation. Near these ruins and of the same date is a curious font, now used as a flower-stand; there also remains an incised slab with floriated cross and long sword, temp. Henry III.; the stone is split across the middle, but otherwise is in good condition, and is similar to one engraved in Boutell's "Christian Monuments," p. 24. This building is supposed to have belonged to the hospital of Yeaveley, where there was formerly a hermitage which with the lands, etc., were given in the reign of Richard II. to the Knights Hospitallers, whereupon it became a preceptory of that order. The hospital of Yeaveley or Stydd derived part of its revenues from property in Ashbourne. The steep ascent to the south of the town on the road to the hospital, is termed in ancient deeds, and still called, "The Spital Hill."

Stydd Hall, once a good stone edifice, is now used as a farm-house.

As it is probable these interesting remains, and especially the slab (of which I find no mention in any history of the county), will in time disappear, their perpetuation by notice in the pages of the *Gentleman's Magazine* seems desirable.

I am, etc., T. Lindsey Peak.

Tideswell.

[1794, *Part II., pp.* 1101, 1102.]

A few days since, the church of Tideswell, near Buxton, in Derbyshire, attracted my particular attention; and I was induced to examine the inside as far as my time would permit, and to make the enclosed sketch of a large tomb of black limestone in the chancel (see Plate II.). It is to be observed that the verse upon the tomb has *hunc verbum* instead of *hoc verbum*.

Near the above-mentioned tomb is another large slab of toadstone, resting upon a railing of wood, enclosing a stone sculpture, much decayed, representing a corpse whose head is supported by cherubs, one on each side; but of this my time would not allow me to make a drawing. The slab has a border of brass, from which the former,

being like it, and of a much later date, was perhaps copied. From each corner of the border a label extends inwards. On that near the right hand is engraved :

Ego sum Alpha et Omega, primus et novissimus ;

which inscription is likewise on a large oval brass plate in the middle. On the left hand is :

Quos Deus junxit nemo separet.

On that near the right foot is,

Qui baptizatus fuerit salvus erit.

And at the opposite corner,

Qui p'severabit usque in finem salvus erit.

Near each corner is inlaid a shield of brass ; and, in a fifth they are quartered thus : 1 and 4. A griffin rampant. 2. A bend between 6 escallop shells. 3. A field without a charge. On a square plate, at the top, is this inscription :

Sacrilege olim sculpturas æreas furati sunt hujus monumenti memoriæ Sampsonis Meverill millitis quæ postea reparatæ sunt impensis Johan'is Statham ac ejusdem familiæ.

The following words are engraved on the border in double lines :

Under this stone lyeth Sampsun Meverill which was borne in Stone in the feast of Saint Michael the archangel and there was christened by the pryor of the same hous and Sampson Elitton esq. and Margrett the daughter of Philip Stapley in the year of our Lord MCCCCXXXIIII and so lived and endured under the service of Michall Lord Audley and Dame Elizabeth his wife the space of XVIII yeare and more and after by the assent of John Meverill his fader he was wedded in Belfor the King's man'or to Esabell the daughter of the worpfull knight Sr. Roger Lech the XVIIIth day of Pasch and after that he came to the service of the noble Lord John Montague Earl of Salisbury the which ordered the said Sampson to be a capitaine of divers worshipfull places in France and after the death of the said Earl he came to the service of John Duc of Bedford and soe being in his service he was at XI great battayles in France within the space of two yeares and at St. Luce the said Duc gave him the order of k'thood after that the said Duc made him Mt Constable and by his commandment he kept the Constable Court of this Land till the death of the said Duc and after that he abode under the service of John Stafford Archbishop of Canterbury and soe endureing in great wor'pp. departed from all worldly service unto the mercy of our Lord Jesu Christ the which d'ed his soul from his body in the feast of St. Marut in the yeare of our Lord MCCCCLXII and soe his word may be proved that grace passed cunning Amen. Devoutly of your charitie saith a Pater Noster with an Ave for all pious souls and especially for the soul whose bones resteth under this stone.

Yours, etc., H.

Whittington Church.

[1809, *Part II.*, *pp.* 1201, 1202.]

As you have occasionally given views of several curious churches, it has occurred to me that one of Whittington Church might be

acceptable to many of your readers, who for a long series of years were entertained with the literary communications of your old correspondent, the compiler of the lately published "Anonymiana." I have, therefore, inclosed a drawing of the church where Dr. Pegge officiated above seven and forty years, beloved and respected by all his parishioners. The drawing was made by the late ingenious Mr. Schnebbelie, and published in "The Antiquarian Museum," a work of which the merit was strangely overlooked, till the greater part of the 250 copies which were printed of it perished in the conflagration of February 8, 1808.

The following description of the church was communicated in 1793, by the then worthy rector. The view was taken in 1789.

"Whittington, of whose church the annexed plate contains a drawing by the late Mr. Schnebbelie, is a small parish of about 14 or 15 hundred acres, distant from the church and old market-place of Chesterfield about two miles and a half. It lies in the road from Chesterfield to Sheffield and Rotherham, whose roads divide there at the well-known inn The Cock and Magpye, commonly called The Revolution House.

"The situation is exceedingly pleasant, in a pure and excellent air; it abounds with all kinds of conveniences for the use of the inhabitants, as coal, stone, timber, etc., besides its proximity to a good market, to take its products.

"The Church is now a little Rectory, in the gift of the Dean of Lincoln. At first it was a Chapel of Ease to Chesterfield, a very large manor and parish; of which I will give the following short but convincing proof. The Dean of Lincoln, as I said, is patron of this rectory, and yet William Rufus gave no other church in this part of Derbyshire to the church of St. Mary at Lincoln, but the church of Chesterfield; and, moreover, Whittington is at this day a parcel of the great and extensive manor of Chesterfield; whence it follows, that Whittington must have been once a part both of the rectory and manor of Chesterfield. But whence comes it, you will say, that it became a rectory, for such it has been many years? I answer, I neither know how nor when; but it is certain that chapels of ease have been frequently converted into rectories, and I suppose by mutual agreement of the curate of the chapel, the rector of the mother church, and the diocesan. Instances of the like emancipation of chapels, and transforming them into independent rectories, there are several in the county of Derby, as Matlock, Bonteshall, Bradley, etc.; and others may be found in Mr. Nichols's 'History of Hinckley,' pp. 34, 91; and in his 'Bibliotheca Topographica Britannica,' No. VI., p. 53.

"Fig. 1 is an inscription on the ting-tang, or saints' bell, of Whittington Church, drawn by Mr. Schnebbelie, July 27, 1789, from an impression taken in clay. This bell, which is seen in the annexed

view, hangs within a stone frame, or tabernacle, at the top of the church, on the outside between the nave and the chancel. It has a remarkable fine shrill tone, and is heard, it is said, three or four miles off, if the wind be right. It is very ancient, as appears both from the form of the letters and the name (of the donor, I suppose), which is that in use before surnames were common. Perhaps it may be as old as the fabric of the church itself, though this is very ancient.

"Fig. 2 is a stone head, near the roof on the north side of the church.

"In the east window of the church is a small female saint. In this window, A. a fess vaire G. and O. between three water-bougets sable. [*Dethick.*] Cheque A. and G. on a bend S. a martlet. [*Beckering.*] At the bottom of the window an inscription:

Rogero Cric.

"Roger Criche was rector, and died 1413, and probably made the window. He is buried within the rails of the communion table, and his slab is engraved in the second volume of Mr. Gough's 'Sepulchral Monuments of Great Britain,' Plate XIX., p. 37. Nothing remains of the inscription but Amen.

"In the upper part of the south window of the chancel, is a picture in glass of our Saviour with the five wounds; an angel at His left hand sounding a trumpet.* On a pane of the upper tier of the west window is the portrait of St. John; his right hand holding a book with the Holy Lamb upon it: and the forefinger of his left hand pointing to the cross held by the Lamb, as uttering his well-known confession: 'Behold the Lamb of God, which taketh away the sin of the world.'*

"In the south window of the chancel is, Barry wavy of 6 A. and G. a chief A. Ermine and Gules. [*Burley.*] Ermine, on a chief indented G. or lozengé.

"In the easternmost south window of the nave is A. on a chevron Sable, three quatrefoils Argent. [*Eyre.*] This window has been renewed; before which there were other coats and some effigies in it.

"Samuel Pegge, Rector."

[1810, *Part II., p.* 217.]

As a companion to the view you have already given of Whittington Church, in Derbyshire, I send you a drawing, by the late Mr. Jacob Schnebbelie, of the Rectory House (Plate II.), for forty-five years the residence of the Rev. Samuel Pegge, LL.D., who was for more than that long space of time your constant and intelligent correspondent, who thus describes it:

"The Parsonage House at Whittington is a convenient substantial

* Both these are engraved in the "Antiquaries' Museum," from drawings made by Mr. Schnebbelie.

stone building, and very sufficient for this small benefice. It was, as I take it, erected by the Rev. Thomas Callice, one of my predecessors; and when I had been inducted, I enlarged it by pulling down the west end, making a cellar, a kitchen, a brew-house, and a pantry, with chambers over them. There is a glebe of about thirty acres belonging to it, with a garden large enough for a family, and a small orchard. The garden is remarkably pleasant in respect to its fine views to the north, east, and south, with the church to the west. There is a fair prospect of Chesterfield Church, distant about two miles and a half; and of Bolsover Castle to the west; and, on the whole, this rectorial house may be esteemed a very delightful habitation.

"S. PEGGE."

Such was the account of this humble parsonage, drawn up, in 1793, by the late learned and venerable rector, who was then resident in it in health and vigour, at the advanced age of eighty-eight, where your present correspondent, with a worthy friend lately deceased, spent many happy hours with him for several successive years, and derived equal information and pleasure from his instructive conversation.

Yours, etc., M. GREEN.

[1810, *Part II., p.* 609.]

I send you a view, by the late Mr. Jacob Schnebbelie, of a small publichouse at Whittington, in Derbyshire, which has been handed down to posterity for above a century under the honourable appellation of "The Revolution House" (see Plate II.). It obtained that name from the accidental meeting of two noble personages, Thomas Osborne, Earl of Danby, and William Cavendish, Earl of Devonshire, with a third person, Mr. John D'Arcy,* privately one morning, 1688, upon Whittington Moor, as a middle place between Chatsworth, Kniveton, and Aston, their respective residences, to consult about the Revolution, then in agitation,† but a shower of rain happening to fall, they removed to the village for shelter, and finished their conversation at a publichouse there, the sign of the Cock and Pyvot.‡

The part assigned to the Earl of Danby was to surprise York, in which he succeeded; after which the Earl of Devonshire was to take measures at Nottingham, where the Declaration for a free Parliament, which he, at the head of a number of gentlemen of Derbyshire, had signed, November 28th, 1688,§ was adopted by the nobility, gentry, and commonalty of the northern counties, assembled there for the defence of the laws, religion, and properties.‖ The success of these

* It appears, from traditional accounts, that Lord Delamere, an ancestor of the present Earl of Stamford and Warrington, was also at this meeting.

† Kennet.

‡ A provincial name for a magpie.

§ Rapin, xv. 199.

‖ Deering's Nottingham, p. 258.

measures is well-known; and to the concurrence of these patriots with the proceedings in favour of the Prince of Orange in the west, is this nation indebted for the establishment of her rights and liberties at the glorious Revolution.

The cottage here represented* stands at the point where the road from Chesterfield divides into two branches, to Sheffield and Rotherham. The room where the noblemen sat is 15 feet by 12 feet 10 inches, and is to this day called "The Plotting Parlour." The old armed chair still remaining in it is shown by the landlord with particular satisfaction as that in which it is said the Earl of Devonshire sat; and he tells with equal pleasure how it was visited by his descendants, and the descendants of his associates, in the year 1788. Some new rooms, for the better accommodation of customers, were added about twenty years ago.

A particular and an animated account of the commemoration of this great event on this spot, November 5th, 1788, will be found in your vol. lviii., pp. 1020-1022. On that day was delivered in the church of Whittington,† to an audience that greatly overflowed its narrow dimensions, with all the energy that the subject demanded, a sermon from these striking words: "This is the day which the Lord hath made; we will be glad, and rejoice in it,"‡ by the late learned and worthy rector, the Rev. Dr. Samuel Pegge, then in his eighty-fifth year.

Yours, etc., D. H.

[1789, *Part I., pp.* 124, 125.]

As I find it is the wish of many of your friends, who think it would be a compliment to the good Rector of Whittington to have his letter and narrative of what passed at the Revolution House, with a print of that cottage copied in your entertaining miscellany, I do most willingly consent to it, and have sent you the original plate for that purpose.

I think it necessary to inform you that since the narrative has been published, it appears, from traditional accounts, that Lord Delamere, an ancestor of the present Earl of Stamford, was at the meeting at Whittington with the Earls of Devonshire and Danby and Mr. John D'Arcy. This was no wilful omission of Mr. Pegge's; the only authentic account he could at that time procure was the Duke of Leeds' narration.

Yours, etc., H. Rooke.

* Another view of the Revolution-house, from a drawing by the late Major Rooke, will be found in our vol. lix., p. 224; together with "A Narrative of what passed at this House, 1688," written by the Rev. Dr. Pegge.

† The Church of Whittington is engraved in vol. lxxix., p. 1021, and the Rectory House, in the second part of our present volume, p. 217.

‡ Psalm cxviii. 24.

A narrative of what passed at the Revolution House, at Whittington, in the county of Derby, in the year 1688. With a perspective view and plan of that cottage (see Plate II.).

"Being willing to preserve a representation of the Revolution House at Whittington, which probably will not long withstand the ravages of time, I have had it engraved, with a design to present a few impressions to some Nottinghamshire and Derbyshire friends, who had signified their intentions of celebrating that great event in that cottage. I am now happy to have it in my power to make it better worth their acceptance by the addition of a letter I received from my worthy and learned friend the Rev. Mr. Pegge, the Rector of Whittington. These my friends will do me the favour to accept, as a small token of the regard with which I am their most obedient humble servant,

"H. Rooke."

"To Hayman Rooke, Esq.

"Dear Sir,

"United as we are in sentiments, both of us fast friends upon principle, of that great and ever-memorable constitutional event, the Revolution, of which the Jubilee, or Centenary Commemoration, is intended to be celebrated at the Revolution House, in Whittington, the 5th of November next, I beg leave to present you with a short relation, from the best authority, of what passed at that place, an. 1688, and occasioned the house to be called by that name.

"My narrative, Sir, will be a proper companion to that accurate drawing you have made of the house, and mean to distribute among your friends at the time, and also a necessary one, since though many gentlemen may have heard in general terms, of the house's going by that name, yet few of them, perhaps, may be informed of the true cause and occasion of its taking that singular and distinguished appellation.

"I am, Sir, to detain you no longer, your most obedient humble servant,

"Samuel Pegge."

The Duke of Leeds' own account of his meeting the Earl of Devonshire and Mr. John D'Arcy* at Whittington, co. Derby, A.D. 1688.

The Earl of Danby, afterwards Duke of Leeds, was impeached, A.D. 1678, of high treason, by the House of Commons, on a charge of being in the French interest, and, in particular, of being popishly affected. Many, both Peers and Commoners, were misled, and had

* Son and heir of Conyers Earl of Holderness.

conceived an erroneous opinion concerning him and his political conduct. This he has stated himself, in the Introduction to his "Letters," printed A.D. 1710, where he says: "That the malice of my accusation did so manifestly appear in that article wherein I was charged to be popishly affected, that I dare swear there was not one of my accusers that did then believe that article against me."

His Grace then proceeds, for the further clearing of himself, in these memorable words relative to the meeting at Whittington, the subject of this memoir.

"The Duke of Devonshire also, when we were partners in the secret trust about the Revolution, and who did meet me and Mr. John D'Arcy, for that purpose, at a town called Whittington, in Derbyshire, did, in the presence of the said Mr. De Arcy, make a voluntary acknowledgement of the great mistakes he had been led into about me; and said, that both he, and most others, were entirely convinced of their error. And he came to Sir Henry Goodrick's house in Yorkshire purposely to meet me there again, in order to concert the times and methods by which he should act at Nottingham (which was to be his post), and I at York (which was to be mine); and we agreed, that I should first attempt to surprise York, because there was a small garrison with a Governor there; whereas Nottingham was but an open town, and might give an alarm to York, if he should appear in arms before I had made my attempt upon York; which was done accordingly;* but is mistaken in divers relations of it. And I am confident, that Duke (had he been now alive) would have thanked nobody for putting his prosecution of me amongst the glorious actions of his life."

This affair of the Earl of Devonshire's concerting measures with the Earl of Danby is also just hinted at by Bishop Kennet,† but the tradition of the place is more full and express than either the Bishop or the Earl of Danby, "That the three noble personages abovementioned met privately one morning, A.D. 1688, upon Whittington Moor, as a middle place between Chatsworth, Kniveton, and Aston, to consult about the Revolution then in agitation; and that a shower of rain happening to fall, they removed to the village for shelter, and finished their conversation at a publichouse there, the sign of the Cock and Pyvot."‡ This house is a cottage, and stands at the point where the road coming from Chesterfield divides (that on the left hand going to Sheffield, and that on the right to Rotherham), and has ever since been called the Revolution House. The room marked (*d*) in the plan of the house is 15 feet by 12 feet 10 inches, and

* For the Earl of Devonshire's proceedings at Derby and Whittington, see Mr. Deering's "History of Nottingham," p. 260.—Mr. Drake, p. 177 of his "Eboracum," just mentions the Earl of Danby's appearance at York.

† Kennet, "Mem. of Fam. of Cavendish," p. 148.

‡ The provincial name of a magpie.

denotes the particular place where the noblemen sat, and is to this day called by the opprobrious name of the Plotting Parlour. The other rooms marked in the plan are as follows: (*a*) the kitchen, (*b*) a room called the house, (*c*) little parlour, (*d*) as above mentioned, (*e*) brew-house, (*f*) stables.

Bishop Kennet mentions the Lord Delamere, Sir Scroop How, and some few others of the greatest quality and interest in those parts, as concerned with the Earls of Devonshire and Danby in this important business; and these two great patriots were indeed with the Earl of Devonshire at Nottingham, the 10th or 12th of November, and might be privy to the confederacy; but we have no reason to think they were either of them amongst those that met on Whittington Moor, or at the Revolution House, as the Duke of Leeds' Narration, our most authentic account, is entirely silent as to them.

[1788, *Part II., pp.* 1020, 1021.]

On Tuesday, the 4th instant, the committee appointed to conduct the Jubilee had a previous meeting, and dined together at the Revolution House in Whittington. His Grace the Duke of Devonshire, Lord Stamford, Lord George and Lord John Cavendish, with several neighbouring gentlemen, were present. After dinner a subscription was opened for the erecting of a monumental column, in commemoration of the Glorious Revolution, on that spot where the Earls of Devonshire and Danby, Lord Delamere, and Mr. John Darcy, met to concert measures which were eminently instrumental in rescuing the liberties of their country from perdition. As this monument is intended to be not less a mark of public Gratitude than the memorial of an important event, it was requested that the present representatives of the above-mentioned families would excuse their not being permitted to join in the expense.

On the 5th, at eleven in the morning, the commemoration commenced with Divine service at Whittington Church. The Rev. Mr. Pegge, the rector of the parish, delivered an excellent sermon from the words, "This is the day," etc. Though of a great age, having that very morning entered his eighty-fifth year, he spoke with a spirit which seemed to be derived from the occasion; his sentiments were pertinent, well arranged, and his expression animated (see our "Poetry," p. 1010).

The descendants of the illustrious houses of Cavendish, Osborne, Boothe, and Darcy (for the venerable Duke of Leeds, whose age would not allow him to attend, had sent his two grandsons, in whom the blood of Osborne and Darcy is united); a numerous and powerful gentry; a wealthy and respectable yeomanry; a hardy, yet decent and attentive peasantry—whose intelligent countenances showed that they understood, and would be firm to preserve that blessing, for which they were assembled to return thanks to Almighty

God—presented a truly solemn spectacle, and, to the eye of a philosopher, the most interesting that can be imagined.

After service, the company went in succession to view the old house, and the room called by the Anti-revolutionists, the "Plotting-Parlour," with the old armed-chair in which the Earl of Devonshire is said to have sitten, and everyone was then pleased to partake of a very elegant cold collation, which was prepared in the new rooms annexed to the cottage. Some time being spent in this, the procession began :

Constables with long staves, two and two.

The Eight Clubs, four and four, viz.—

1. Mr. Deakin's.—Flag, blue, with orange fringe, on it the figure of Liberty; the motto, "The Protestant Religion and the Liberties of England we will maintain."
2. Mr. Bluett's.—Flag, blue, fringed with orange; motto, "Libertas; quæ fera, tamen respexit inertem." Underneath the figure of Liberty, crowning Britannia with a wreath of laurels, who is represented sitting on a Lion, at her feet the Cornucopia of Plenty; at the top next the pole, a Castle, emblematical of the house where the club is kept; on the lower side of the flag, Liberty holding a Cap, and resting on the Cavendish arms.
3. Mr. Ostliff's.—Flag, broad blue and orange stripe, with orange fringe; in the middle, the Cavendish arms; motto, as No. 1.
4. Mrs. Barber's.—Flag, garter blue and orange quartered, with white fringe; mottoes, "Liberty secured"; "The Glorious Revolution."
5. Mr. Valentine Wilkinson's.—Flag, blue, with orange fringe; in the middle the figure of Liberty; motto, as No. 1.
6. Mr. Stubbs'.—Flag, blue, with orange fringe, motto, "Liberty, Property, Trade, Manufactures;" at the top, a head of King William crowned with laurel; in the middle, in a large oval, "Revolution, 1688." On one side the Cap of Liberty, on the other the figure of Britannia; on the opposite side, the flag of the Devonshire arms.
7. Mrs. Ollerenshaw's.—Flag, blue, with orange fringe; motto, as No. 1, on both sides.
8. Mr. Marsingale's.—Flag, blue, with orange fringe; at the top the motto, "In Memory of the Glorious Assertors of British Freedom, 1688;" beneath, the figure of Liberty leaning on a shield, on which is inscribed, "Revolted from Tyranny at WHITTINGTON, 1688," and having in her hand a scroll, with the words, "Bill of Rights" underneath a head of King William III.; on the other side the flag, the motto, "The Glorious Revolter from Tyranny, 1688," underneath the Devonshire arms; at the bottom the following inscription, "WILLIELMUS DUX DEVON., Bonorum Principum Fidelus Subditus; Inimicus & Invisus Tyrannis."

The members of the clubs were estimated at two thousand persons, each having a white wand in his hand, with blue and orange tops and favours, with the "REVOLUTION" stamped upon them.

The Derbyshire Militia's band of music.
The Corporation of Chesterfield in their formalities, who joined the procession on entering the town.
The Duke of Devonshire in his coach and six.
Attendants on horseback, with four led horses.
The Earl of Stamford, in his post-chaise and four.
Attendants, on horseback.
The Earl of Danby, and Lord Francis Osborne, in their post-chaise and four.
Attendants, on horseback.
Lord George Cavendish, in his post-chaise and four.
Attendants, on horseback.
Lord John Cavendish, in his post-chaise and four.
Attendants, on horseback.
Sir Francis Molyneux and Sir Henry Hunloke, Barts., in Sir Henry's coach and six.
Attendants, on horseback.
And upwards of forty other carriages of the neighbouring gentry, with their attendants.
Gentlemen on horseback, three and three.
Servants on horseback, ditto.

The procession in the town of Chesterfield went along Holywell-Street, Saltergate, Glumangate; then to the left, along the upper side of the Market Place to Mr. Wilkinson's house, down the street past the Mayor's house, along the lower side of the Market Place to the end of the West Barts, from thence past Dr. Milne's house to the Castle, where the Derbyshire band of music formed in the centre and played "Rule, Britannia!" "God save the King," etc.; the clubs and corporation still proceeding in the same order to the Mayor's, and then dispersed.

Wirksworth.

[1821, *Part II.*, *pp.* 401-403.]

During an excursion, in the summer of 1820, through various parts of the romantic county of Derby, I arrived at the town of Wirksworth, where I slept. On the following morning, Sept. 16, I visited the parish church, which was then undergoing a complete repair. This church is built in the cathedral manner, consisting of a nave, with north and south aisles, having small transepts attached, and also aisles adjoining the choir. After taking a survey of the whole, I went into the chancel, and found, fixed in the north wall, a specimen

of rude and ancient sculpture in basso-relievo, representing various circumstances in the history of our blessed Saviour (see Plate II.). This stone, which is of grit quality, measuring 5 feet long and 2 feet 10 inches wide, has, under the very judicious directions of the vicar and churchwardens, been placed where it now is. This relic of primeval piety was discovered on removing the old pavement before the altar railing (the sculpture being downwards), and it was not without considerable time bestowed, and great care used, that it was safely presented to public view. It was doubtless much longer, as is evident from its broken and mutilated extremities; and it is with a design that it should be further preserved in your valuable magazine, that I am induced to send you the accompanying drawing, taken from a sketch I made the morning I first viewed it. The following description is what I apprehend to be nearly the true one. (The small figures above and below my drawing are intended for reference to the different subjects.)

1. The washing the disciples' feet. . . . The towel lies at the foot of the basin.

2. The cross, on which is the Lamb, emblematical of our Saviour. I incline to think that the figures above the cross are intended for those of St. John and St. Peter; St. John on the left, from the head leaning towards the cross; that disciple being the beloved one, is always represented reclining on Christ. St. Peter on the right, alluding to that incident in his life, the denial of his Master. Beneath the cross are two birds, cocks.

3. The entombing of Christ, wherein He is represented lying on a bier, as in the act of being carried by Joseph of Arimathea and his attendants to the sepulchre. The figure beneath, in a recumbent posture, is descriptive of the conquest obtained over the monster death and the grave, by Christ's Passion. The foot of the bier seems to retain Satan captive, as being placed directly through his body. The faces in the centre over the body of Christ, are intended for the guard, the chief priests and Pharisees placed at the sepulchre, to prevent the body being stolen by his disciples. (St. Matt. xxvii. 62-66.) . . .

4. The presentation in the temple. The figure with a palm-branch in the hand, denotes the Christian's joy on being rescued from sin and misery, by the appearance of Christ upon earth, and offering Himself a willing sacrifice for the sins of mankind.

5. The Nativity. The busts beneath, and the person who is pointing towards the Infant, signify the wise men from the east.

6. The Ascension. Our Redeemer is here attended in His ascent by angels, who are supporting and bearing Him triumphant in their hands, towards the blessed abode of His heavenly Father. Christ carries His cross in His hands, the trophy of His having subdued the powers of darkness and death; and by that means restoring to life

and immortality the sons of men; made subject to bondage by Adam's transgression. (1 Cor. xv. 21, 22.)

7. The return of the disciples to Jerusalem after the Ascension. (St. Luke xxiv. 50-52.)

Yours, etc., R. R. RAWLINS.

We have been favoured with another drawing of the same subject from Mr. Hunt, who thus communicates some additional information:

The stone was found during the late repairs, about two feet below the surface of the pavement, over a stone-built vault or grave; indeed over the proper covering of the said grave, which contained a perfect human skeleton of rather large stature than otherwise. Nothing very remarkable besides was discovered; a few tiles were found in different parts of the church under the floor; two of which had on them, one the arms of Beauchamp, the other those of John of Gaunt's father-in-law, Henry the good, Duke of Lancaster, according to Froissart, who died of the plague in 1360, and was buried on the south side of the high altar of the collegiate church at Leicester, founded by his father. In the Calendar of Inquisitions post mortem, we read at page 14, vol. i., that it appeared in 39 Henry III. that Margaret de Ferrars, Countess of Derby, had, amongst other property ("*pro dote sua*"), Asleiorhaye and Arlewashele, both of them places in this parish. After the battle of Chesterfield, in 1266, Robert de Ferrars, for rebelling against his sovereign, was divested of the Earldom of Derby with its large possessions, which were given to Edmund, Earl of Lancaster, and eventually formed a considerable part of the revenues of the Duchy.

[1821, *Part II.*, *p.* 501.]

A short dissertation upon the singular figure above mentioned, in the words of a learned antiquary, who has investigated with great skill and judgment the early architecture of this country, may, perhaps, not be foreign to the subject:

"There is reason to believe," says Mr. Kerrich,* "that this figure was held in particular veneration by Christians from very early times"; and he supposes "it might have some reference to the symbolical representation of Christ under the figure of a fish, and this is the more probable, because we are told it was called '*Vesica Piscis*.' But however this may be, and whatever ideas of sanctity might be attached to the thing itself, we may remark that in paintings as well as sculptures of the lower ages, we find it almost constantly used to circumscribe the figure of our Saviour, whenever He is represented as judging the world, and in His glorified state, particularly

* "Observations on Gothic Buildings and Architecture," *Archæologia*, vol. xvi., p. 306.

over the doors of Saxon and Norman churches. Episcopal and conventual seals, and those of religious societies, and of all ecclesiastical officers, were universally of this form, and continue to be made so to this day."

Yours, etc., E. I. C.

Old Road at Ashbourn.

[1792, *Part II.*, *p.* 1073.]

The view which accompanies this (Plate I.) exhibits part of the old road at Ashbourn, in Derbyshire. It is not now in use, one infinitely better having been made at some little distance from it. It is, indeed, rather a wonder that they who planned the old one should prefer cutting their way through a bed of rock to levelling inequalities in the slope of the same hill. However, the remains of this road are exceedingly pleasant, for from most parts of it the church and Dovedale hills are visible; while the sides of the rock throughout produce an astonishing variety of beautiful foliage, vines, etc., that hang luxuriant down. The rock is not of the hardest kind, as there are strata of yellowish sand, intermixed with others inclining to red, that are continually crumbling. The whole neighbourhood of Ashbourn affords prospects seldom equalled. The continued series of hills, which rise one beyond another, remind one of a calm at sea, where huge undulating waves follow on each other in endless succession. By-the-bye, I cannot think it is ever calm at sea, for at no time (except during violent gales) is the motion of a vessel more disagreeably felt than when the surface of the waves is as polished as a mirror.

J. P. Malcolm.

The following articles are omitted:—

1772, pp. 515, 552, 573, Observations on the Ashbourne inscription.
1773, p. 8, The same.
1793, part ii., pp. 792-793, Dishley Farm, near Bakewell.
1802, part ii., pp. 1085-1086, Buxton described in the Johnsonian style.
1802, part ii., pp. 706-707, Midsummer Tour [commencing at Derby].

References to previous volumes of the *Gentleman's Magazine Library*:

Prehistoric Antiquities: Stone implements found at Brimington; cave at Castletown; skeleton of rhinoceros at Wirksworth—*Archæology*, part i., pp. 16, 60-61, 307-308.

Roman Remains: Pig of lead at Matlock Moor—*Romano-British Remains*, part ii., p. 583.

Anglo-Saxon and Scandinavian: Scandinavian place-names; Saxon graves at Winster—*Archæology*, part ii., pp. 175, 292.

Dialect: Local words in Derbyshire—*Dialect and Wordlore*, pp. 169, 170, 335.

Folk Lore: Decorating wells at Tissington; memorials of Robin Hood—*Popular Superstitions*, pp. 142-143; *English Traditions*, p. 87.

Devonshire.

DEVONSHIRE.

Ancient State and Remains.

[1817, *Part I., pp.* 25-30.]

British Inhabitants.—Damnonii.

Roman Province.—Britannia Prima. *Stations.*—Isca Damnoniorum, Exeter; Moridunum, Seaton, or Honiton; Tamare, Tamerton.

Saxon Heptarchy.—Westsex.

Antiquities.—Drew Steignton Cromlech, Kistvaen, and Druidical circles; Yealmton Monumental Stone; Exeter Cathedral; Tavistock and Ford Abbeys; Axminster, Bishop's Teignton, East and West Teignmouth, Ottery St. Mary, and Tawstock Churches; Berry Pomeroy, Compton, Dartmouth, Okehampton, Plimpton, Rougemont at Exeter, Tiverton, and Totness Castles.

Tawton and Crediton were episcopal sees.

Tavistock was a mitred abbey, founded in 961 by Orgar, Duke of Devon, father of the beautiful and infamous Elfrida, Queen of Edgar, and completed in 981 by his son Ordulph, who was buried there.

Present State and Appearance.

Rivers.—Aven, Axe, Dart, Erme, Exe, Otter, Plym, Tamer, Taw, Teign, Torridge, Yealm; Bovey, Bray, Carey, Coly, Creedy, Culm or Columb, Little Dart, Dawl, Kenn, Lenmon, Lyd, Lyn, Mole, Oke, East and West Okements, Sid, Tidal, Tynhay, Waldon, Wrey, Yeo.

Inland Navigation.—Grand Western, Tavistock, Stover, Tamar manure canals. The twelve first-mentioned rivers.

Lakes.—Cran Meer, source of the Dart in Dartmoor; Bradford, Slapton Lea, and Sutton Pools.

Eminences and Views.—Dunkerry Beacon, in Exmoor, 1,890 feet above level of the sea; Castle Head, in parish of High Bray, 1,500 feet; Chapman Burrows, 900 feet; Great Hangman Hill, 800 feet,

and Little Hangman Hill, near Combe Martin, 600 feet; Hoardown Gate, 1,000; Slade Hill, 900 feet, and Swindown, 800 feet, near Ilfracombe; Rippon Tor, 1,540 feet; High Bellever, Essery, Steeperton, Ham, Mist, Row, and Crockern Tors, in Dartmoor; Haldown Hill; Piddle Down; Castle Lawrence, on Pen Hill; Belvidere, in Powderham Grounds.

Natural Curiosities.—Laywell, near Brixham, ebbing and flowing spring; Bampton chalybeate spring; Lundy Island; Hartland Point, Start Point, and Bolt Head; Dart and Ex moors; Chudleigh rock and cavern, Morwell rock, and Bren Tor; Drew Steignton, and Withicomb, or Nut-crackers logan stones; scenery of Lydford bridge and cascades; of Ivy bridge; of Linton, Linmouth, and the Valley of Stones; of Combe Martin, and Ilfracombe.

Public Buildings.—Eddystone lighthouse, finished by John Smeaton in 1759; Plymouth breakwater, arsenal, dockyard, lines; Bideford bridge, 677 feet long; Barnstaple and Exeter bridges.

Seats.—Castle Hill, Earl Fortescue, lord-lieutenant of the county; Bickham, Sir William Elford, Bart.; Bicton, Lord Rolle; Blatchford, Sir John Lemon Rogers, Bart.; Buckland Monachorum, Sir Francis Henry Drake, Bart.; Clovelly Court, Sir James Williams Hamlyn; Collypriest, Thomas Winsloe Philips, Esq.; Creedy, Sir John Davie, Bart.; Dartington Manor House, Arthur Champernowne, Esq.; Escott House, Sir John Kennaway, Bart.; Great Fulford, Baldwin Fulford, Esq.; Haccombe, Sir Henry Carew, Bart.; Haldon House, Sir Lawrence Vaughan Palke, Bart.; Hartland Abbey, Mrs. Orchard; Holcombe Court, Peter Blewett, Esq.; Killerton House, Sir Thomas Dyke Ackland, Bart.; Loventor, Sir Frederic Francis Baker, Bart.; Lupton House, Sir Francis Buller, Bart.; Mamhead, Earl of Lisburne; Maristow, Sir Manasseh Lopes, Bart.; Membland House, Sir John Pering, Bart.; Mount Edgecumbe, Earl of Mount Edgecumbe; Oxton House, Rev. John Swete; Powderham Castle, Viscount Courtenay; Pynes, Sir Stafford Henry Northcote, Bart.; Saltram, Earl Boringdon; Sharpham, Edmund Bastard, Esq.; Shute House, Sir W. Templer Pole, Bart.; Tawstock, Sir Bourchier Wray, Bart.; Ugbrook, Lord Clifford; Wistaway House, Sir John Lethbridge; Wolford Lodge, Mrs. Simcoe; Youlston, Sir Arthur Chichester.

Produce.—Bovey coal, lead, tin, copper, pipe and potter's clay, marble, limestone, slate; cattle, fish, cyder, butter, (clouted) cream.

Manufactures.—Serges, kerseys, carpets, bone lace, ship-building.

History.

A.D. 615, at Bampton, Britons defeated and 1,046 men slain by Kynegils, King of Westsex.

A.D. 833, on Hengist Down, Danes defeated by Egbert, and A.D. 876, near Exeter, by Alfred.

A.D. 878, from Kenwith Castle, Oddune, Earl of Devon, in a sally, defeated the Danes, killed Hubba, their commander, and took the famous Reafen Standard.

A.D. 1003, Exeter taken and completely destroyed by Sueno, King of Denmark, in revenge of Ethelred's inhuman massacre of the Danes in the preceding year.

A.D. 1076, Exeter taken by William I., and A.D. 1135, after a siege of two months, by Stephen.

A.D. 1357, May 5, at Plymouth, Edward the Black Prince and his prisoner, John, King of France, landed and proceeded to Exeter, where they were royally entertained.'

A.D. 1498, Exeter successfully defended by the citizens against Perkin Warbeck and his army of six thousand men.

A.D. 1501, Oct. 2, at Plymouth, Catherine of Arragon landed.

A.D. 1549, June 9, at Sampford Courtenay, the insurrection on account of change of religion and abolition of the Mass commenced. The insurgents besieged Exeter, but after several engagements, being completely defeated on Clyst Heath, August 5, by John Lord Russell, the siege was raised the following day.

A.D. 1643, Sept. 2, Bideford and Barnstaple Parliamentarians routed by Colonel John Digby.

A.D. 1643, Plymouth successfully defended by the inhabitants, in a siege of three months, against Prince Maurice.

A.D. 1646, at Bovey Tracey, Lord Wentworth and Royalists surprised by Oliver Cromwell; and at Torrington, Feb. 14, Royalists defeated by Sir William Fairfax.

A.D. 1688, Nov. 5, at Torbay, the Prince of Orange, afterwards William III., landed; on the 9th he arrived at Exeter, where he remained twelve days, and then proceeded to London and accomplished the revolution.

Biography.

Audley, James, Lord, hero of Poictiers, Barnstaple (flor. temp. Edward III.).

Badcock, Samuel, divine and critic, South Molton, 1747.

Baker, George, East Indian benefactor, Tormoham (died 1797).

Baldwinus (Devonius), Archbishop of Canterbury, Exeter (died in Palestine, 1190).

Bampfield, Francis, Nonconformist divine and author, Poltimore, 1622.

Bampton, John de, first public reader of Aristotle at Cambridge, Bampton (died 1391).

Barkham, John, divine and antiquary, Exeter, 1572.

Baron, John, Nonconformist divine and author, Plymouth (died 1683).

Baskerville, Sir Simon, physician and anatomist, Exeter, 1573.

Bathe, Henry de, Lord Chief Justice (flor. temp. Henry III.).

Battie, William, physician, 1704.

Blount, Jonn (Latinè Blondus), Archbishop of Canterbury (died 1248).

Blundel, Peter, benefactor, founder of Tiverton School, Tiverton, 1523.

Bodley, Sir Thomas, founder of the Bodleian Library, Exeter, 1544.

Boniface, Sir Wenfride, Bishop of Mentz, converter of the Germans, Crediton, 695.

Bracton, Henry de, author of "De Legibus et Consuetudinibus," Bratton, thirteenth century.

Brentingham, Thomas, Bishop of Exeter, Lord Treasurer to Richard II. (died 1394).

Brice, Andrew, printer, author of "Topographical Dictionary," Exeter (died 1773).

Bronscombe, Walter, Bishop of Exeter (died 1281).

Bryant, Jacob, mythologist, Plymouth, about 1725.

Budgell, Eustace, essayist, St. Thomas, near Exeter, 1685.

Burdwood, James, Nonconformist divine and author, Yarnacombe, 1626.

Burton, John, divine, author of "Opuscula Miscellanea," Wembworth, 1696.

Carew, George, Earl of Totness, author of "Pacata Hibernia," 1557.

Carew, Thomas, wit and poet (died 1639).

Carpenter, Nathaniel, scholar, chaplain to Usher, Hatherleigh (died 1636).

Cary, James, Bishop of Exeter, Cookington (died 1419).

Cary, Sir John, Chief Baron, faithful adherent to Richard II., Cookington (died 1404).

Cary, Robert, chronologer, author of "Palæologia Chronica," Cookington, 1615.

Chichester, Sir Arthur, Lord Deputy of Ireland, Raleigh (died 1625).

Chichester, Richard, historian, Raleigh (died about 1355).

Chichester, Robert, Bishop of Exeter, Raleigh (died 1150).

Chudleigh, Lady Mary, poet, Winslode, 1656.

Churchill, John, Duke of Marlborough, Prince of Mildenheim, Ashe, 1650.

Conant, John, divine, "Conanti nihil difficile," Yeatenton, 1608.

Conybeare, John, Bishop of Bristol, defender of Revelation, Pinhoe, 1692.

Corey, John, actor and dramatic writer, Barnstaple (died 1721).

Courtenay, Peter, Bishop of Winchester, Powderham (died 1491).

Courtenay, Richard, Bishop of Norwich (died 1415).

Courtenay, William, Cardinal, Archbishop of Canterbury, Exminster (died 1396).

Cowell, John, civilian, author of "Interpreter," Ernsborough, 1554.
Cowley, Mrs. H., dramatic writer, Tiverton, 1743.
Crane, Thomas, Nonconformist divine and author, Plymouth, 1630.
Cutcliff, John, schoolman, Gammage (temp. Edward III.).
Davis, John, discoverer of Davis Straits in South America in 1585, Sandridge.
Dodderidge, Sir John, judge (died 1628).
Duck, Arthur, civilian, biographer of Archbishop Chichele, Heavitree, 1580.
Dunning, John, Lord Ashburton, advocate, Ashburton, 1732.
D'Urfey, Thomas, song and dramatic writer, Exeter, 1628.
Edmondes, Sir Thomas, diplomatist and political writer, Plymouth, 1563.
Elfrida, Queen of Edgar, Tavistock.
Exeter, Walter of, historian of Guy of Warwick (flor. thirteenth century).
Exeter, William of, defender of papal power, Exeter (flor. 1330).
Fishaker, Richard, schoolman (died 1248).
Foliot, Gilbert, Bishop of London, adversary of Becket, Tamerton, (died 1187).
Foliot, Robert, Bishop of Hereford, Tamerton (died 1186).
Ford, John de, confessor to King John, Ford (died 1215).
Ford, Thomas, Nonconformist divine and author, Brixton, 1598.
Fortescue, Sir John, author of "De Laudibus Legum Angliæ," Brent (died 1465).
Fortescue, Sir John, tutor to Elizabeth and Chancellor of the Exchequer.
Foster, James, defender of Christianity, Exeter, 1697.
Gale, Theophilus, author of "Court of the Gentiles," Kingsteignton, 1628.
Gay, John, poet and dramatic writer, Barnstaple, 1688.
Geare, Allan, Nonconformist divine and translator, Stoke Fleming, 1622.
Gilbert, Sir Humphrey, naval commander, Greenway (died 1583).
Glanvil, Sir John, judge, Tavistock.
Glanvil, Joseph, defender of witchcraft, Plymouth, 1636.
Granville, George, Viscount Lansdowne, poet, 1667.
Granville, Sir Richard, one of the conquerors of Glamorgan in 1091, Bideford.
Hakewill, George, divine, Exeter, 1579.
Hankford, Sir William, Chief Justice, Amery (died 1422).
Hanmer, Jonathan, Nonconformist divine and author, Barnstaple, 1605.
Harding, Thomas, polemical divine, Combe Martin, 1512.
Hawkins, Sir John, rear-admiral at defeat of the Armada, Plymouth, 1520.

Hawkins, Sir Richard, naval commander, Plymouth (died 1622).
Hayman, Francis, painter, 1708.
Henrietta Maria, Duchess of Orleans, daughter of Charles I., Exeter, 1644.
Herle, Sir William, Chief Justice, Ilfracombe (died 1335).
Hilliard, Nicholas, limner to Elizabeth, Exeter, 1547.
Hooker, John, antiquary, assisted Holinshed, Exeter, 1524.
Hooker, Richard, author of "Ecclesiastical Polity," Heavitree, 1553.
Hopkins, Charles, poet and tragic writer, Exeter, 1664.
Hopkins, Ezekiel, Bishop of Derry, Sandford, about 1635.
Jewel, John, Bishop of Sarum, author of "Apologia Ecclesiæ Anglicanæ," Burden, 1522.
Iscanus, Bertholomeus, Bishop of Exeter, opponent of Becket, Exeter (died 1185).
Iscanus, Josephus, Archbishop of Bordeaux, "a golden poet in a leaden age," Exeter (flor. 1210).
Kendal, George, Calvinistic author, Cofton (died 1663).
Kennicott, Benjamin, Orientalist, editor of Hebrew Bible, Totnes, 1718.
King, Peter, Lord Chancellor, Exeter, 1669.
Lye, Edward, author of Saxon Dictionary, Totnes, 1704.
Martin, Richard, Recorder of London, author, Exeter (died 1616).
Martin, William, historian, Exeter (died 1616).
Mauduit, John, Nonconformist divine and author, Exeter (died 1674).
Maynard, Sir John, old and witty sergeant, Tavistock (died temp. William III.).
Mayne, Jasper, poet, divine, and dramatic writer, Hatherleigh, 1604.
Molle, John, confessor, South Molton, 1557.
Monck, George, Duke of Albemarle, Restorer of Royalty, Potheridge, 1608.
Monck, Nicholas, Bishop of Hereford, Potheridge, 1609.
Newton, George, Nonconformist divine and author, 1602.
Ockley, Simon, Orientalist, Exeter, 1678.
Osborne, John, Nonconformist divine and author, Crediton, 1619.
Palk, Thomas, Nonconformist divine and author, Staverton, 1636.
Parsons, James, physician, Barnstaple, 1705.
Pearse, William, Nonconformist divine and author, Ermington, 1625.
Peele, George, dramatic poet (died 1598).
Petre, Sir William, Secretary of State to four sovereigns, Exeter, about 1505.
Pollard, Sir Lewis, judge, King's Nismet (died 1540).
Prideaux, John, Bishop of Worcester, Hartford (died 1650).

Quicke, John, Nonconformist divine and author, Plymouth, 1636.

Rainolds, John, divine, Pinto, 1549.

Raleigh, Sir Walter, discoverer of Virginia, Hayes Farm, Budley, 1552.

Raleigh, William de, Bishop of Winchester, Raleigh (died 1249).

Reynolds, Sir Joshua, painter, F.R.A., Plympton, 1723.

Roger the Cistercian, writer of legends, near Ford Abbey (flor. 1180).

Rowe, John, Nonconformist divine and author, Tiverton (died 1677).

Saunders, Richard, Nonconformist divine and author, Peyhambury (died 1692).

Shebbeare, John, political writer, author of "Chrysal," Bideford, 1709.

Sprat, Thomas, Bishop of Rochester, poet, Tallaton, 1636.

Stanbery, John, Bishop of Hereford, first Provost of Eton, Bratton (died 1474).

Stone, Nicholas, statuary, master mason to Charles I., Woodbury, 1586.

Strange, John, philanthropist, Bideford (fell victim to the plague, 1646).

Strode, William, divine, orator, and poet, Newinham, 1599.

Stuckley, Lewis, Nonconformist divine and author, Afton (died 1687).

Stuckley, Thomas, eccentric character, Bideford, 1681.

Tapper, Samuel, Nonconformist divine and author, Exeter, 1636.

Tindal, Matthew, deist, Beer Ferrers, 1657.

Tolley, David, scholar, author of "Themata Homeri," Kingsbridge (flor. temp. Edward VI.).

Trope, George, Nonconformist divine and author, Exeter, 1631.

Tucker, William, Dean of Lichfield, defender of the royal touch (died 1617).

Upton, Nicholas, author of book on heraldry, first of its kind (flor. 1440).

Walker, Rev. George, heroic defender of Londonderry, Exeter (slain 1690).

Walker, Samuel, divine, Exeter, 1714.

Wilford, William, naval commander, near Plymouth (died 1414).

Yalden, Thomas, poet, Exeter, 1671.

Miscellaneous Remarks.

At Exeter Lent Assizes, 1586, an infectious disorder was communicated by the prisoners, of which the judge, eight justices, eleven jurymen, and several officers of the court died.—The Great Bell, given by Bishop Courtenay, weighs 12,500 pounds.

At Heavitree, August 25, 1682, were executed three women, natives of Bideford, the last sufferers under the statute against witchcraft.

At Tiverton, April 3, 1598, a fire destroyed 33 persons, more than 400 dwellings, and £150,000 worth of property.—August 5, 1612, a second fire destroyed 600 houses, and goods to the amount of £200,000; and in 1731 a third fire consumed 298 houses, and property of the value of £60,000.

March 15, 1760, the *Ramillies*, man-of-war, with above 600 men, perished off the Eddystone rocks. A descriptive account of the lighthouse, with plates, in imperial folio, was published by its architect, Smeaton.

Combe Martin was once famous for its silver mines.—In Ottery St. Mary are the remains of the residence of Sir Walter Raleigh.—In Buckland Monachorum is a monument by Bacon in memory of Lord Heathfield, defender of Gibraltar.—Mason has made the romantic story of Elfrida the subject of a fine dramatic poem.

[1819, *Part I., pp.* 619, 620.]

Your compendium of the county appeared in January magazine, 1817, p. 27; but I have not met with any correction of that account, which is defective in the list of celebrated men. Therefore I take the liberty to point out a few errors into which the writer has fallen, and to supply some omissions that are not peculiar to himself, but are attributable to the larger works to which he must necessarily have had recourse.

"John Davis," discoverer of the celebrated straits that bear his name; but they are not, as is said, situated in South America, but in the North of Europe, in latitude 64° 40′ to 66° 30′. By the way, this voyage was performed in two barques out of the port of Dartmouth; and although he made two subsequent attempts by order of Queen Elizabeth, yet "he returned without making any useful discovery, as all others have since done," says Anderson, in his dry prophetical manner ("History of Commerce," vol. i., p. 426). The harpoon was first used in that first voyage, but not then upon the whale.

Sir Francis Drake, the first circumnavigator, Lympstone, sailed from Plymouth. He was not more celebrated for that exploit than for his attacks on the Spanish settlements and the share he had in defeating the Armada. A good and elaborate life of him, by Dr. Johnson, appeared in the *Gentleman's Magazine*, vols. x. and xi.

"Pollard, Sir Louis." For Nismet, read Nymet; it is now called King's Nympton; the word *nymet* alluding to a custom attending the descent of copyhold tenancy in certain parishes in Devonshire, which is well illustrated in the *Spectator* by the story of a widow, who is there said to ride into the Court (Baron) on a black ram, confessing

her crime, and demanding repossession of her deceased husband's land.

"Eustace Budgell," one of the authors of the *Spectator*, with the signature "X" to his papers, and some time Secretary of State in Ireland. He was cousin, by the mother's side, to the celebrated Addison, and to John Duke of Marlborough; a native of St. Thomas's, adjoining to Exeter, born in 1685, and died by drowning (in a fit of melancholy) in the Thames, 1737.

"John Hooker" is spelt Hoker in his "Account of Exeter," to which was added, with an *alias*, Vowell—why, I have never learnt.

"John Rainolds." For Pinto read Pinho.

"George Trope," evidently a mistake for the Reverend George Trosse, a very eloquent and energetic preacher among the Presbyterians, the memory of whose labours and good deeds survived him above a century. He died in 1613, and not in 1631. He was not the author of any book of note, single sermons and tracts (six in number) being all that he published.

"Henry de Bracton" was born at Clovelly, near Barnstaple, which is usually described in writings as Bratton-Clovelly, but never as Bratton alone.

"George Peele," chiefly known as a player, was "Master of the city Pageants," and his "merry conceits and witty sayings" were printed 1611, 4to. A copy of this pamphlet fetched a high price at the Roxburgh sale.

"Simon Ockley, Orientalist," is too vague. He wrote a "History of the Saracens."

"Dr. Matthew Tindal," author of "Christianity as Old as the Creation," died in 1733—a work which neither you nor I would take any credit for having written; yet, as its sale was very great, and caused a good portion of sensation at the time, the Doctor is therefore worthy of a line or two in your Compendium.

"Jacob Bryant," Plymouth, mythologist, 1718. His biographer is mistaken in making him a native of Chatham, in Kent; he was removed thither when a boy, in 1725 or 1726.

"Sir J. Dodderidge," knight, Barnstaple, 1555. He wrote "Reports of Cases," 2 vols., folio, and several other works connected with his profession, among the rest "The Lawyer's Light, or Directions for Studying," etc., and died in 1628. The curious reader will have noted that, as Bracton and Fortescue were the earliest writers on the common law of the country, their treatises being in Latin, so was Dodderidge the first writer on the same subject in English, and all three natives of the western parts of the county.

Besides Drake, as noted above, your correspondent might have added several others worthy of mention in such a summary as he has given, and wholly indispensable to the work which I have in contemplation, and for which I have collected large materials.

John Wolcott, M.D., painter and poet, the latter under the assumed name of Peter Pindar, Esq.; was born near Kingsbridge, 1738, and died January, 1819, at Camden Town.

John Zephaniah Holwell wrote an account of the fall of Calcutta in 1756, and the confinement of 137 persons in the Black Hole there; was a native of Exeter, where he died in 1789. Lemprière is wrong in calling him Governor-General of Bengal, as he is in the year of his decease.

Thomas Mudge, Plymouth, made the timekeeper for the Board of Longitude. He died 1769.

Hugh Downman, M.D., author of "Infancy," a didactic poem; "Lucius Junius Brutus," and other tragedies. Died at Exeter in 1809.

Sir Francis Buller, Bart., judge, and

John Heath, judge, were also from the same neighbourhood; and it is worthy of remark that this last-mentioned and Sir Vicary Gibbs, who sat together in the Court of Common Pleas, were born in the same precinct—viz., the Close at Exeter.

I might increase this list of notable persons to an immoderate length, if such a course were at all desirable to your pages; but if I set down merely their names it will be enough for the present, and I reserve the option of being more particular hereafter. You will, however, agree with me that memoirs of many men and women are worthy of preservation, although they themselves can never be objects of imitation; such are the two first.

Bampfylde Moore Carew, "king of the beggars"; Joanna Southcott, pretended prophetess; George Simcoe, soldier; William Jackson, musical composer; Henry Tanner, a pious and profitable Methodist preacher; Samuel Musgrave, the critic and politician; Bartholomew Parr, M.D., criticism and medicine; Benj. Donne, mathematics; Rev. John Prince, divine and biographer; Sir James Thornhill, painter; Wm. Tasker, divine and poet; John Manly Wood, divine and critic; Sir James Lucas Yeo, warrior; John Bampfylde, poet; Lord Thomas Clifford, statesman; Lord Arlington, statesman.

Yours, etc., BIO-DEV.

Ancient Church Architecture.

[1834, *Part I., pp.* 394-399.]

The following letter is devoted to the remains of ancient architecture in Devonshire, with a view principally to investigate the distinguishing forms and features of the churches, their antiquity, and their various decorations; and also to notice the general system of innovation, which seems almost to have been established in this county, and which in its mischievous and unrestrained course has deprived many of the noblest ecclesiastical edifices of their most

sumptuous or most admired ornaments, and the progress of which is still negligently permitted on many of the valuable remains that have hitherto escaped the excesses of ignorant and deluded fanatics.

Breadth and extent of building are among the striking characteristics of the churches in Devonshire. The former is perhaps more remarkably conspicuous than the latter. Triple aisles—those on the sides of the chancel and body, in many cases as wide, or nearly as wide as the centre space—almost uniformly compose the plan, whose general figure, as seen in its complete elevation, has seldom sufficient height to give the triple gables which terminate the roof a graceful external appearance. A tower of stately proportions at the west end or on the south side was calculated to ennoble the design; but Barnstaple and Bideford, and some other large churches, have towers remarkable for their insignificance; and perhaps the ancient fashion of building churches, in Devonshire, could not be exemplified by instances more ungraceful, I had almost said apposite, than these; for, generally speaking, magnificence and extent of structure are not united in the ecclesiastical architecture of Devonshire. A strong and striking distinction between the body and chancel is a handsome character which does not generally belong to the churches in this county. A long undivided line of roof usually extends from the east to the west end, and spans an area with sides exactly parallel, though not always precisely uniform in their design. The Church of Broad Clist, which in some respects is an exception to these remarks, invites the attention of the traveller, and would be admired in the adjoining county of Somerset. It was built in the fifteenth century, and in the words of Dr. Johnson, is an "edifice of loftiness and elegance equal to the highest hopes of architecture." It will be observed that the apex of the chancel is somewhat exceeded in elevation by that of the nave; but even this building, with all the fascination of its design, is far inferior in the beauty of its relative proportions to such churches as Wrington, St. John's in Glastonbury, High Ham, Huish, and East Brent in Somersetshire, which I name as perfect models of churches of the class under consideration, and in which the beauty of the design is enhanced by the contracted proportions of the chancel, the double set of gables, and the pleasing informality in the height of the walls and the size of the windows. The Church of Broad Clist must, however, be regarded as a very beautiful specimen of architecture, as pre-eminent for the choice and arrangement of its ornaments, for the magnificence of its tower, which stands at the west end, and for the perfection of all its windows and embattled parapets, as well as for the whole of its internal decorations. It would be difficult to name a church in the county that would not lose by comparison with this admirable specimen of ecclesiastical architecture. The tower possesses loftiness and grace, and presents the most imposing elegance. Its proportions attract

admiration, and admiration is heightened by the judicious distribution of solidity and ornament. There is no display of finery, no inequality in the allotment of decoration. The door at the base is very handsome, and eight tall and tapering pinnacles crown the summit. The most superb window in the church appears at the east end of the north aisle: the rest have less novelty in their design, but these claim the praise of symmetry; and if their numerous ramifications were now as formerly occupied by painted glass, no part of the interior would be deficient in lustre, nay, the solemnity would be increased by the addition. Clustered pillars and arches, combined with the utmost attention to science and good taste, separate the nave and chancel from their aisles. Whole-length statues of angels, holding books or shields, stand on the capitals, and sustain the external moulding of the arches in all the aisles. The wings mount above the heads of the figures, and descend in straight lines to their feet. The moulding is decorated with rosettes, and the capitals are beautifully enriched with foliage, heads, and other sculptures. I was fortunate in seeing this church before the hand of mischief was uplifted to do it violence. It has since descended upon the building, and modernized its roof both externally and internally, giving it an outward covering of sheet iron. It has also defaced the monuments, by tearing away the ornamented iron rails by which they were protected: these trophies of barbarism were for a time to be seen glittering with gold, among ancient oaken beams and rafters from the roof, and heaps of less valuable rubbish, in the churchyard.

The broad and lofty arch, as the internal feature of separation between the body and chancel, seems no less indispensable to the beauty of the internal design than a difference of dimensions both in breadth and height (the length being always greater) is deemed necessary to complete the character and elegant effect of the exterior; but owing to the arrangement before described as common in the churches of Devonshire, the arch in this position was omitted, as interfering with the regularity and uniformity of the sides and the even line of the roof. But the screen, with its rood loft, seems never to have been discarded, but always to have maintained its situation over the entrance to the chancel; and the rood, with its accompanying figures, reached nearly to the ceiling, where a beam, perhaps larger than the rest, and more elaborately carved, appeared as a suitable ornament to the sculptured representations immediately over which it was fixed. This description may be applied to Collumpton Church, the interior of which, in its pristine state, must have exhibited a glorious spectacle. The display of enrichment over the door of the sanctuary was most magnificent. Other portions were highly beautiful in their design and ornament, but the sculptors reserved their powers for the embellishment of this part of the

interior, which exhibited the rood carved in oak, high above every other object, and elevated in this instance nearly to the crown of the ceiling. The last relic of its adornments was removed from its situation little more than half a century ago, and is still to be seen in the church, where it is preserved, or, I should say, suffered to occupy a vacant place, without molestation and without regard. Its use is not remembered by those who might have witnessed it among heaps of rubbish in the loft or gallery, where it had lain neglected ever since the period when it was forced from its position and other acts of violence and impiety were committed in the church. The beam which supported the rood and its attendant figures was formed of a tree of noble growth and of undiminished bulk when the carver wrought out his design upon its surface. It is partly solid and partly hollow, and has been sawn in two pieces. When entire it measured about 15½ feet in length and 20 inches in diameter. The carving is of the boldest character, and requires distance to show it to advantage. The surface is covered with a kind of leaf ornament, or it may be intended to represent the rough bark of a tree. In the centre is a pedestal 11¼ inches square, with a mortise 8 inches deep, for the purpose of receiving the foot of the cross and securing its stem in an upright position. Under it is a death's head and cross bones. The side pedestals, which also have death's heads and bones under them, are nearly twice as broad as that in the middle, and supported the figures of the Virgin and St. John, which were not mortised into the beam, but were kept in their positions by a rim or border, formed by excavating the pedestals about 2 inches below the surface. The distance between each pedestal, measured from their centres, is full 4 feet 2 inches. Between the pedestals and beyond them, near to the extremities of the beam, are holes more than an inch in diameter, deeply sunk in cones which are raised as high as the pedestals: these were designed for the four waxen tapers which were occasionally required in the rites of the ancient religion.

It will, perhaps, be expected that I should at least glance at the Elder Architecture of Devonshire. I will therefore observe in this place that there is absolutely nothing among the ecclesiastical buildings that the most acute discoverer of *Saxon* architecture would claim as exhibiting evidences of a date anterior to the Norman Conquest. Bishop's Teignton Church has been wretchedly mutilated. The remains of the old building have been violently disturbed, if not strangely displaced. The chief object of curiosity among them is the head of the south doorway: its lintel is sculptured with a representation of the Magi presenting their gifts to the infant Jesus. If the *quality* and *character* of the sculpture be considered, it does not differ, in my judgment at least, from those of the acknowledged productions of the Normans in the twelfth century. If the *position*

be regarded, I would observe that the lintel of the magnificent west doorway of Rochester Cathedral is covered with some historical representation.

I approached Crediton with reverence, and was prepared to abate something of my distrust of genuine Saxon architecture (spite of the bungling manner in which its advocates have attempted to characterize it), in favour of what I might here find distinguished by round arches, and capitals and ornaments anterior to the invention of pointed architecture; but the church proved to be a cruciform building, of vast dimensions, moderate beauty, moderate interest, and of late date, except some portions of the interior, which may be classed with the oldest specimens of pointed architecture in England. The original Saxon church of Crediton might have remained till the close of the twelfth century, and then have been demolished, after the Norman style had lost its ascendancy. . . .

The last half of the fifteenth century was one of the periods distinguished by its liberal encouragement of architecture; it is perhaps not exceeded by any other—at least, its buildings outnumber those in any style which preceded or followed. This remark is applicable to Devonshire, and, with a few brilliant exceptions, a degree of talent was exercised in their production very inferior to that which is to be observed in other parts of the country. The progress of alteration is observable in some of the churches, but it is seldom productive of an anomaly so singular as that which appears in Uffculm Church. The original building was raised early in the thirteenth century, and was an unpretending specimen of the early pointed style. Single cylindrical pillars, with capitals of the same form, and arches broad rather than lofty, comprised its essential internal ornaments. But if little more than two centuries and a half did not undermine its stability and render restitution indispensable, its plain and antiquated architecture had lost its charms with those who had been taught to cluster columns and mouldings in their simplest designs. Be the cause what it might, it is certain that only the north side of the church of Uffculm was left standing, and it was the alteration of the most eastern arch of the number that produced the uncommon feature there seen, of one pillar placed upon another, each with its proper capital.

If I were further to characterize the architecture of Devonshire, I should say that its paramount distinctions are exuberance and coarseness. The senses are often captivated with the gorgeous display of sculpture, which is sometimes equally profuse on the outside and the inside of buildings; but in several the hand which wrought the work exercised no peculiar skill in its execution, and occasionally the application of ornament is so novel and its devices so remarkable (as, for examples, in the Grenwaye Chapel at Tiverton and the Lane Chapel at Collumpton), that with all the liberty of pointed architec-

ture for the appropriation of objects, animate and inanimate, one is almost disposed to condemn the introduction of such devices as occur in the buildings just named as instances of inexcusable licentiousness.

Wood and stone were made rivals in splendour; their merits are nearly equal. The triple aisles, another common characteristic of the churches in Devonshire, are divided at the point where the body and chancel meet by a screen, which extends from the north to the south wall, and dazzles the eye by the magnificence and profusion of its tracery, mouldings, ribs, sculptures, and their accessories, painting and gilding.

The screen with its roodloft in Uffculm Church is a grand specimen. They extend across the breadth of the triple aisles and join the external walls, in the northern of which appears the door which conducts to the gallery. There is great inequality in the workmanship. A considerable portion of the front towards the north end has been renewed. It was carved and not long since erected by a villager, who, in directing the attention of strangers to his work, never fails to assure them of its being more nicely executed than the sculpture of antiquity. He is nevertheless a man of genius, and worthy of encouragement in his art; but the present is an instance that genius uncontrolled by judgment is wanton and runs riot. I observe the semblance of antiquity without any of its spirit or accuracy. The carver worked with the model always before him, and perchance fancied that he was making good use of it. Had the hand not wanted the guidance of a sound head, it might have accomplished a work with claims to unqualified praise. The dissonance I have noticed in the genuine ornaments of this screen relates more particularly to the arrangement of the sculptures than to their execution. The screen at Collumpton is not exempt—indeed, very few of these gorgeous masses of ornament are exempt—from this defect; less care seems to have been bestowed in the application than in the performance of the meritorious work. I intend no asperity by the foregoing remarks towards the restorer, or the patrons of the restoration of the roodloft in Uffculm Church. . . . I am not sure that the roof of the hall of Weare Gifford, which is surprisingly beautiful in its design and admirable for the care with which it is carved and constructed, could ever have been duly appreciated except by a near approach to it in the gallery. I know nothing of the kind superior to it, and am not sure that I could point to its equal. The span is 36 feet by 20, and the pitch sufficiently steep to comprehend a pointed arch of singular elegance in every frame. The patron was fortunate in the assistance of workmen worthy to be employed on so admirable a design. The same high degree of perfection is exhibited among the decorations of the architecture of the cathedral at an earlier period, but Devonshire has not many more examples that can

rank with these in the first-class of performances of this kind. I have spoken of chancel screens. Collumpton produces perhaps the richest example of this kind of screen in the county. It is 52 feet in length, and supports the roodloft on an elegantly groined cove. I may say of the design that parts rather than the whole were considered, and consequently that it discovers a want of unity and uniformity. Care, but very unequal degrees of care, in the execution of this rich assemblage of ornament is evident everywhere, and its imperfections (so to call them) are scarcely remembered in the abundance of its merit. The members are perhaps too thin for the ornaments, or, rather, I should say that the carved work encumbers and destroys the effect of proportions, which otherwise possess considerable merit.

The splendid confusion in the screen and pulpit at Kenton could only have been occasioned by the misapplication of carved work, which had evidently been prepared for some uniform design on a still grander scale of dimensions. It was consigned to hands by no means skilled in cunning workmanship, and its original demerits are fully exposed, if not augmented, by the incongruity of its composition.

The roofs are inferior only to the screens in gorgeousness of enrichment. There is scarcely an example of a flat ceiling over the body and chancel in any of the churches. The cove, more or less depressed, is the prevailing form, and Collumpton must again be adduced as affording a most elaborate and beautiful specimen. The roof of Chudleigh Church is very ingeniously contrived. It is raised into a point, and is perfectly plain excepting a horizontal rib or moulding in the centre, which joins in with the intersection of the diagonal groins originating in the union of the roof of the north transept with that of the church. In the absence of a corresponding transept, the ribs have been extended to the opposite wall. The whole is an interesting piece of carpentry, and I know nothing of the kind superior to the sculpture of its ornaments. The corbel from which the ribs spring at the angles of the transept are square, embattled and elongated in a very singular manner. The centre boss represents a head crowned, and very finely carved, but the head in the middle of the north-east rib will be regarded as a design of superior merit, and as a specimen of the most highly finished sculpture. It belongs to the fifteenth century; the transept is of the same age; the body of the church is older; and the chancel of a still earlier date.

AN ARCHITECTURAL ANTIQUARY.

[1834, *Part II.*, *pp.* 34-39.]

I now conclude my remarks on the antiquities of Devonshire. Having in my preceding letter drawn largely upon the architectural treasures of Collumpton Church, I will now close the subject, though

without exhausting it, by a description of one of its richest embellishments. The Lane Chapel on the south side is a very magnificent building. Its windows are highly adorned with tracery, and its buttresses, turrets, and parapets share the ornaments which have been liberally bestowed on every part of the design. An inscription on the wall immediately under the windows is not the least interesting object among the enrichments which claim attention :

"In honour of God and his blessed mother Mary. Reme'b' the saulis of Jhon Lane Wāpent' Cust' et Lanarius, and the sawle of Tomsyn his wiffe, to have in memory with all other ther Ch'ldryn and fr'ndis of your awne Charyty, which were fownders of this chapell, and here lyeth yn cepulture, the yere of ower Lorde God I thowsant fyve hondreth syx and twynti. God of his grace on ther borth sawles to have mercy and fynally bring them to the eternall glory."

The interior is light, lofty, and elegant; it is rich in ornament, but not overloaded, and the decorations are mostly in good taste, and spread uniformly over every part of the design. The roof is groined in stone. Its whole surface is covered with a beautiful pattern of tracery springing from the walls and pillars, which latter are remarkably light and graceful, and strengthened by buttresses standing in the church, panelled and embellished with whole-length figures in several tiers.

The Grenaway Chapel at Tiverton is an adjunct in precisely the same taste. There is in both examples, but more particularly in this, a flaunting mien, which seems to result from an exuberance of ornament of a bold and prominent character. The architecture of these chapels does not harmonize with that of the churches to which they are attached. Something less than half a century divides the period of their erection, but they are separated by their character much more distinctly and distantly. They may be viewed as caskets of rare cost and most curious workmanship, but they are empty caskets, and it is certain that they never contained jewels in the shape of sepulchral monuments and sculptured effigies commensurate with their beauty and their external claims to admiration. At Collumpton the founder's monument consists of a humble gravestone on the common level in the centre of the floor, where it has remained undisturbed, though not uninjured, ever since the day of its deposit. It is 7 feet 1 inch in length and 3 feet 1 inch in width, and has been embellished with the effigies of a male and female in brass and four lozenge-shaped panels, two at the head and as many at the foot, once filled with armorial devices. The brasses have been wholly destroyed, but the inscription engraved on the border of the stone remains perfect :

"Hic jacet Joh's Lane M'cator hui' q^{e} capelle fu'dator cu' Thomasia uxore sua q^{i} dict' Joh'es obijt xv^{o} die februarij anno d'ni mill'o CCCCCXXVIIJ."

I find the kind of sepulchral monument here described as marking the spot in the pavement of the chapel, beneath which repose the ashes of the founder, to have been in common use, at least in Devon-

shire, till after the commencement of the seventeenth century. The effigies and ornaments in brass were discarded, but the brief and intelligent inscription in old English characters, deeply engraven within a border on the verge, was retained; and often a coat of arms, neatly cut, added to the value of the modest memorial. I select a specimen of one of these slabs from among several in the churchyard at Mamhead. It is elevated upon a plain tomb, and is thus inscribed:

"Here lyeth the body of John Atwill, gent. of Kenton, who, for the love he bore unto this parrish, was here buried, the 12th of July, in 1600."

Arms.—A pile and a chevron, counterchanged. . . .

In the shape of the clustered columns and the singular form of the capitals very little variety is to be observed. The former are lozenge-shaped. The capitals resemble broad bands on their summits; these are richly and sometimes very curiously ornamented. The design commonly possesses more merit than the sculpture, which is often coarse and inelegant. In Alphington Church the mouldings of the arches and columns correspond. The intervening capitals, which are broad at the top, and slope to meet the astragal, where they set on the pillars, are composed of four angels issuing from clouds, with expanded wings, and holding shields; between them are some handsome representations of foliage. One of the capitals on the south side exhibits a difference of pattern. The figures correspond with the rest, but their arms are connected by ribbons or scrolls very gracefully folded. The capitals of the columns in Broad Clist Church are very highly finished specimens of sculpture, mostly composed of heads and foliage. One on the south side has a rope issuing from the mouths of figures, and coiled round its circumference.

Though the merit of extreme delicacy in point of execution can rarely be allowed to belong to the sculptured ornaments which enrich the prevailing style of architecture in this county, yet numerous very beautiful specimens occur in many of the buildings. In some instances the excellence of the workmanship falls short of the design, and the profusion of ornament surpasses the beauty of its arrangement. Occasionally, too, coarseness and neatness are so closely associated in the same object that we can scarcely suppose that the chisel was guided by the same hand in its execution. But I do not observe that the ancients ever forgot the rule, or remembering never neglected it, that, though they appropriated foliage, fruit, and flowers in all their varieties to the service of architecture, servility of imitation was to be avoided; and that with the choicest models before them, the sculptors were free to exercise their taste and discernment in the use of them. . . . The ancients were perfect masters of sculpture. Their buildings accordingly exhibit, in the majority of instances, admirable beauty both in the design and execution of this branch of their art, the best qualities of which are combined in the patterns of foliage which contribute so much to the

beauty of the choir screen and the brackets which sustain the pillars of the roof both in Exeter Cathedral and in that which adorns the superb cornice of the roof of the hall of Weare Giffard. The former were executed early in the fourteenth century, and the latter towards the end of the fifteenth century, in the reign of Edward IV. The oak leaf is one of the most common patterns among ancient foliage, and its representations in these examples is admirable; but the grouping of the foliage is so skilfully managed, and the imitation so graceful and unaffected, the application so judicious, and the material in which it is executed so well considered, that the result of the taste and skill of those who designed and wrought these excellent sculptures is the most perfect and beautiful effect. It is evident that detail has not been overlooked, but the general appearance of the ornaments, in regard to the superior features of architecture with which they were incorporated, was duly considered; and the combinations of their various groups were formed with justness and elegance. The labour of undercutting, as seen in the examples just named, must have been very considerable; but a group of foliage was tended to be looked at as a group or assemblage of leaves, tendrils, and flowers, designed as a corbel, a boss, or a capital for use, to which ornament was subordinate; and this though the eye might, after the first burst of gratification was over, descend to the component objects and examine their various forms and curious workmanship. . . .

Architectural innovation has long reigned with uncontrolled power in the county of Devon. Elsewhere the hand of depredation and destruction only partially fixes its hateful impress on the works of ancient art and magnificence; but here everything that is venerable for its antiquity, or beautiful for its material and workmanship, is subject to malicious injury. The spoliage which has been committed in some of the most extensive ecclesiastical buildings in various parts of the county is unlimited. It is impossible to view without indignation so many of its once noble and highly adorned churches savagely despoiled of every graceful and ornamental feature under the plea perhaps of necessity or convenience. But what excuse can be proffered or accepted for mischief perpetrated for its own sake, permitted by negligence, encouraged by parsimony, or, for the reverse is sometimes alleged in extenuation of the offence, effected by prodigality?

The antiquary who enters this county expecting or hoping to derive complete pleasure from the gratification of his curiosity will surely be disappointed. He may here and there meet with a church so splendid and perfect in its enrichments as almost to atone for the deficiencies he is sure to find in twenty other instances. He may fancy that the owners of houses would have evinced more regard for the remains of domestic architecture than the guardians of churches

have shown for those of the ecclesiastical order. But here, too, he must endure disappointment. Three mansions, possessed indeed of extraordinary interest—Weare Giffard, Bradley Hall, and Bradfield Hall—nearly complete the catalogue of examples. But how long the county may claim possession of even this number is doubtful. The entire destruction of either of the three is not, at least for the present, to be apprehended. One, however, is neglected, and its ancient apartments are strangers to the garnish of appropriate furniture. Another has lost much of its ancient beauty since it has been honoured by the occasional residence of its owner. The third was deprived of what might have been viewed as the asperities of antiquity at a period remarkable for ostentation in architecture. Splendour, regardless of labour and expense, has been bestowed in this instance in the room of more humble but infinitely more elegant ornaments. The interpolated work of James I.'s reign has been respected; it is still admired, and claims a prescriptive right to the care and protection it receives.

Before I quit the domestic architecture of Devonshire, I will give one instance of the taste which unfortunately, while it denounces, has the power to destroy an ancient mansion and to call into being a structure of marvellous character and deformity. I allude to the ancient seat of the Bouchiers. Tawstock abounds in splendid scenery. The house stands on a considerable elevation, and is still approached by a fine old gateway with octagonal towers on the exterior angles. It bears the date of 1574, and is a good specimen of coarse rubble work, in broad and narrow thicknesses, arranged alternately. The whole of the mansion, which faces this gateway on the opposite side of a spacious court, has not been entirely destroyed or disfigured; but it has been blemished with a new front, where once appeared the most costly features of the ancient fabric which adorned the rich landscape in which it was situated.

The cathedral furnishes a lamentable instance of sacrilege and impiety in the conversion of the beautiful sepulchral chapel of Sir John Speke into a public thoroughfare. The founder lies in a recess in the north wall. The enrichments of the altar have been entirely removed, and a doorway now occupies the east end; and to complete the transformation of the chapel into a porch or passage a considerable portion of the beautiful screen which separates the sepulchre from the church has been destroyed, and a capacious doorway substituted. Some attempt to secure the recumbent effigy and tomb of the owner would have disarmed severity of its keenest censures, and would have convinced those who cherish respect for the memory and monuments of men once eminent for virtues and abilities that, if the alteration was unavoidable, their claims to security and regard were not altogether overlooked. But so obstinately indifferent in many instances are the guardians of churches to propriety and

decency towards the sacred memorials of founders and benefactors, that they can witness without regret the gradual extinction of sepulchral trophies, the antiquity of which, instead of lessening attachment to them, ought rather to strengthen our respect for memorials which have been reverenced and preserved through many ages. Except in the instance of the cathedral the system of innovation, or rather destruction, when once admitted, is of a sweeping nature, and admits of no augmentation. The church at Barnstaple may be named in confirmation of this remark. It is an ancient and very extensive building, composed of three aisles of equal dimensions. The arches and pillars which sustained the triple roof have been entirely demolished, and with these every vestige of antiquity which the interior contained, save only the huge tower in the centre of the south aisle, which was left for want of means to destroy its massy walls. The exterior now assumes an aspect at once heavy, coarse, and ungracious. The church at Bideford, on the same plan, has been partly subjected to the same system; but the mnemoclasts of this place, more considerate for the clustered pillars which were designed to support the church, have removed them into the churchyard, where they serve as gate-posts before the porch of the temple to which in better days they belonged.

Tracery, that magnificent feature of pointed architecture, an ornament which at the same time adorns the exterior and interior of the building, and which often constitutes the chief embellishment of the design, is not generally admired in this county, and consequently the windows of very few of the churches exhibit anything more than a row of yawning apertures. The sides of Torrington Church are sufficiently plain and simple in this respect; indeed, this building amply proves the ingenuity which is often exercised in Devonshire for the purpose of supplanting the ancient form and appearance by a novel character. It was one of the most admired in the county for the picturesque arrangement of its constituent features, of which the boldest and most prominent was the tower standing on the south side. Many of the churches are distinguished by the position of their towers on the side. The cathedral takes the lead. Its two towers occupy the situation, and answer the purpose of transepts; and the church of St. Mary Ottery was built on precisely the same plan.

The tower of Torrington Church was a tall and rather plain structure, capped with a curious old pointed roof or rather stunted spire of lead. The broad gable of the chancel and a small side chapel with an enriched parapet completed a group of architecture, which, with few claims to admiration on the score of detail, possessed so many on those of arrangement and effect that the artist's pencil was often exercised in its delineations. Such *was* the exterior of Torrington Church. Its figure, its time-worn aspect, and

its antiquity recommended it to the notice of every traveller sensible to good taste. But the more delicate touches of the picture were wanting. Battlements had been thrown down, and windows of ample breadth shorn of their tracery and mullions to save the cost and labour of repairs. The touch of time had done very little injury; the assaults of mischief appear in every direction—indeed, so complete is the metamorphosis that those who knew the church as I have described it will no longer recognise it. The ancient tower has been destroyed, and another, with a spire of stone, attached to the west end of the building.

The church at Weare Giffard, however, still preserves its ornaments of this kind. The pattern is very singular. It consists of intersected pointed arches springing from two mullions and corresponding mouldings in the jambs of the inclosing arch. One object of peculiar richness and beauty has been preserved in the church at Newton Bushel—the altar window, which must be assigned to the latter end of the fifteenth century. It exhibits proportions of considerable elegance and internal ornaments of unusual variety. The design of the tracery is handsome; but the form of the transom which divides the height of the mullions in the centre is of an uncommon pattern. The recess of the window is lined all round with ornaments in two rows. The outer or principal line consists of niches with canopies and pedestals; the inner line is composed of a horse-shoe, a water bouget, and a rose in regular alternate succession. There are pillars or rather mouldings with capitals on the sides, and grotesque animals at the springing; and the outer edge of the arch is enriched with a pattern of scroll foliage.

Dawlish Church has been modernized in bad taste. It was an edifice of considerable interest, but now possesses really nothing to challenge attention. The churches in Teignmouth are also specimens of the debased style of modern architecture, so much admired and patronized in this county. Gothic, as it is called, is affected everywhere, and in almost everything, and the same hands which at one time are employed in squandering money and torturing materials into the ugliest forms, are at another perhaps not very distant period, engaged in the destruction of an ancient church, or a curious domestic building, thus exterminating the models of ancient architecture, which ought to be spared and protected as furnishing the standard of the pointed style. Mary Church is full of barbarities, and houses in the Gothic fashion are springing up among the romantic scenery of Torquay. The craggy heights of this beautiful place are crested with pert things assuming the name of castles; and a situation which would have been adorned by a temple of Grecian magnificence, is disgraced by a building with sliced pilasters and a bell-turret.

The sculptors of grotesques were neither deficient in invention nor

ingenuity, nor select in the application of their favourite ornaments. The very coarse or very fanciful productions of the chisel on the exterior of Kenton Church have, among others, suggested some observations which appeared on this subject in former letters. I shall still avoid particularizing the objects which supplied some of those remarks, and will pass on to notice with more attention and more satisfaction, several examples selected from various buildings in different parts of the county.

Norman sculptures are very rare, owing to the rarity of this style of architecture in Devonshire. The Church of Bishop's Teignton is, however, an interesting one. Its west doorway furnishes some of the most remarkably grotesque sculptures that are anywhere to be met with, very highly wrought in a material which time has not perceptibly impaired. The fancy which first produced the beaked heads so common in Norman architecture, must have been singularly gifted with the power of distortion, and the faculty of creating monsters with extraordinary ease and dexterity. These heads have tall plumes, long beaks, and capacious jaws, and are covered with ornaments. Such were some of the characteristic enrichments of Norman architecture. About four centuries later appeared the sculptures which attract attention in the very singular front of Bradley Hall. The human form and features could scarcely have entered the imagination of the being who in this instance reduced huge blocks of stone into heads and limbs so extravagantly disproportionate to each other as these, and so ludicrous in their union, expression, and position. The arch of the porch is upheld by two monsters more likely to repel than encourage approach to the threshold.

The more beautiful doorway of Weare Giffard presents figures of a less repulsive form; but these sculptures are very imperfect; one of them is distinguished by a long tail, which is incorporated with the torus moulding of the label, and the extremity, at an ample distance, is marked by a triple tuft. The exterior of this house presents an interesting variety of sculptures on the corbels of the windows, representing men and women, animals, and imaginary monsters, all in good sculpture, and many of them in excellent taste. A corbel of one of the windows on the east side, merits particular notice. It is the bust of a female, which, if portraiture was ever attempted in sculptures thus applied, may fairly be viewed as the resemblance of some distinguished personage. The attitude is graceful, and the attire elegant. The hair is concealed by a band with a rich jewel over the forehead, and the folds of the coif descend on one side to the waist.

Grotesques have not been extensively admitted among the sculptures of the cathedral. I noticed in the Lady Chapel a carving of a man blowing a horn, accompanied by a dog in the most distorted position scratching his ear. An animal similarly engaged forms the

corbel of a mass of superbly sculptured foliage on the north side of the choir. A dog scratching his ear is not a scarce ornament in ancient architecture. Another specimen may be seen in the roof of the gateway of New College, Oxford.

I will conclude these remarks upon sculpture with observing that a mermaid holding a fish in each hand is carved on the seat of one of the stalls. This also was a favourite subject, but ancient sculpture has not preserved a more singular specimen of it than that which appears in wood in the roof of the north aisle of Dulverton Church, Somersetshire. The mermaid holds her tail in one hand, and a fish in the other. On the sides are two fishes, one in an ascending, the other in a descending position.

AN ARCHITECTURAL ANTIQUARY.

Notes on the Roadside Crosses and other Remains in Mid-Devonshire.

[1862, *Part II., pp.* 292-298.]

Sticklepath lies hid in a valley by the side of a little stream, one of the tributaries of the Taw; and derives its quaint name from the "stickle" or steep path by which it has to be approached from almost every side. The steepest of these is perhaps the one we traversed on our arrival from Okehampton. At the foot of this ancient roadway, and at its junction with the "hill and valley" road to Belstone, stands the shaft of a venerable granite cross, 5 feet 7 inches high, with a cavity on the top, in which of old rested the arms and head, not now to be found, of a rich wayside emblem of the faith. The basal stone is wanting, having probably disappeared when the cross itself fell down during the cutting of the new road. Two sides of the cross are sculptured, one with a design in what is usually known as runic or rope tracery, while on the other side is a long narrow cross, measuring 30 inches by 6 inches, in good relief, having bosses at the four terminal points. In replacing this stone after it had fallen down, the workmen carelessly altered the aspect of the sculptured sides; that bearing the rope tracery having originally faced southwards towards the old "stickle path," while the side containing the long cross, which is now turned towards the new road, in old time faced eastward, or, in other words, towards the passenger as, on leaving the village, he commenced the ascent of that terrible hill. Just before reaching the old cross, we come to a modest fountain on the roadside, on the front of which is rudely sculptured, "The Lady Well—Drink and be thankful." The spring which supplies this fountain and the village below is conducted through pipes from its source in a little field, on the opposite side of the present road, described to us by a resident antiquary, Mr. Pearce, (to whom the preservation of the well is due), as "Our Lady's

Mead." There is an ancient chapel, said to have been once a parish church, close by, presenting no external features of interest, but to which this holy well and mead, with some adjacent lands called the Chantries, in early times belonged.

A walk of about a mile, with old Cawson in all its wild grandeur full in sight, brings us to the ancient borough of South Zeal; once enjoying, no doubt, all the privileges and immunities of a corporate town, but now, it would seem, rudely shorn of its ancient honours. A few indeed remain: we were ourselves the guests of Mr. W. Curson, the venerable High Reeve, who has held that office by the annual vote of his fellow townsmen, with a single year's intermission, for more than a quarter of a century. Other officers, junior reeve, ale-taster, way-warden etc., are evidences of the importance once attaching to the borough of South Zeal. There was at one time a weekly market, and there is still an annual fair, held on the Tuesday after the feast of St. Thomas à Becket. Zeal fair is a "household word," and, as a holiday, not lightly esteemed for many miles round. Midway in the town stands the ancient chapel of St. Mary, and on a little mound at its western extremity a venerable stone cross, in perfect preservation. This relic is elevated on three steps, in addition to the pediment wherein the shaft rests, and measures 9 feet high from the foot to the crown: the arms and head of the cross are formed of an independent stone let into the shaft, as was clearly the case originally with the example we saw at Sticklepath. Opposite to the residence of the present high reeve stands the Oxenham Arms Inn, a fine old Tudor mansion of the Burgoynes, for several descents a paramount family in South Zeal. This is, with perhaps one exception, the finest sixteenth-century house we met with in our rambles, and deserves a passing notice in some future edition of the "Domestic Architecture of England."

Half a mile from Zeal, at the fork of the road from South Tawton to Dishcombe, stand the foundation stone and broken shaft of another relic of the ancient faith, known in the locality as Moon's Cross, though why so called we were unable to ascertain. The shaft, as usual, is of granite, and octagonal in form, the fragment that remains of it standing just 2 feet in height above the basement stone. Nothing appears to be known as to the period of its desecration; but it has probably existed in its present imperfect state for nearly three hundred years.

From Moon's Cross to South Tawton town is but a stone's throw. On entering the place, we rested awhile to examine the "parish house," as it is termed—a venerable but mutilated fabric, apparently of the days of "Bluff King Hal;" and then made our way into the parish church of St. Andrew, a graceful Perpendicular building of no special architectural interest. It consists of a nave and chancel of five bays, the capitals of the pillars (if original) being of remarkably

delicate and rich floriated work, as compared with the other details of the church. The tower is at the west end, and the vestry is a darksome chamber in the thickness of the wall on the north side of the chancel. In the north aisle, or Wyke Chapel, is a handsome Elizabethan alabaster tomb, now adorned with repeated coats of whitewash, and containing the full-length effigy of a soldier, in the armour and stiff-frilled collar of the period. There is no name upon the tomb; but what is just as valuable, there is the sculptured date, 1592, and the arms of Wyke or Weeks, "Ermine, three battle-axes sable," and on the sinister side, not impaled, but on an independent shield, "Sable, three fusils in fesse ermine," for Gifford. This, then, is the tomb of John Wyke, Esq., of North Wyke, in the parish of South Tawton, who married Mary, daughter of Sir Robert Gifford, of Brightlegh, knt. "Warrior Weeks" is the title traditionally given to the subject of this tomb by the villagers around, and it would be interesting to trace out where, and under what circumstances, he won his right to that cognizance of honour. The church contains some trifling fragments of the ancient glazier's art; there are also two or three windows at the east end filled with appropriate subjects in good modern glass. The pulpit is a fine specimen of (we should say) sixteenth-century work, being of oak curiously interwoven, the panels boldly inlaid with Scriptural figures in satin-wood or maple. We had an opportunity of examining the parish books and registers, which extend, the latter from 1540 to the present time, and the books of accounts from some twenty years previously. Certain of the entries in these books, during the reign of Mary in particular, would warrant a special article being written upon them. Quoting from memory—there were the usual charges for frankincense and wax, and for rushes to strew the church, in the days when carpets and matting were not; 2s. 6d. was paid to a certain father, whose name has escaped us, for preaching and offering mass on one occasion; while doles to the poor, ringing of the bells, and parish feastings were not forgotten then, any more than they are now. One item which struck us as peculiar was a charge for "repairing the frame of St. Andrew;" and just below it, another payment "for bringing St. Andrew from Oxenham and refixing it in the church." We may gather from this, that when the servants of Henry VIII. were busy about the country despoiling churches and religious houses, ostensibly for the glory of God, but quite as much for the sake of the plunder that arose therefrom, the pious people of South Tawton made an effort to save some of their church property from destruction. We may further glean from these entries, that, among other things, the parishioners took down from its frame in the church this venerated picture of their patron saint, hiding it away in some cranny at Oxenham until their days of trouble should be ended. A lapse of years ensues, and there seems now the prospect of a return to the old religion, for

Mary is on the throne. Then it is that the "picture frame" is repaired, and "St. Andrew" brought back, with some pomp and rejoicing, to its ancient position, doubtless to as certainly vanish again when Elizabeth takes the reins.

Oxenham House, reported to us as of interest, we had no opportunity of examining; but, passing late one evening through a portion of the estate, just at the junction of the North and South Tawton roads, we espied another perfect and curious granite cross, half hidden in foliage, or rather in the thickness of the hedge by the roadside. This Oxenham cross, which is 6 feet high, and square in form, differs in its proportions from all others in the locality. Notwithstanding that the shaft and head are of the ordinary length, the arms, on the contrary, project on either side not more than three inches at most from the upright stem. The basal stone, if, indeed, it exists, is completely buried in the hedge; but the cross itself, being considerably elevated above the road, must in winter time be a prominent object to strangers passing by. We say to strangers, because several who had resided in the parish from their birth, and probably passed close to the place some thousands of times, expressed to us their utter ignorance of the existence of such a relic.

At Hellardon, which is in the neighbouring parish of Bow, otherwise Nymet Tracy, we came upon another very fine unmutilated stone cross, standing conspicuously forward at the corner of the high road. This is a noble monument, square in design like that at Oxenham, and rising fully 7 ft. high.

Returning through South Tawton, past Moon's Cross already referred to, we ascend the hill to Dishcombe, from a lofty coppice on which estate we can see almost all the localities we have been alluding to. An old road divides this estate from Arscot, or Addiscot, and was, we suspect, in past days more travelled over than it is now, the modern coach-road over Dishcombe Head usurping most of the traffic of the present day. On the roadside, close to Arscot farmhouse, stands another very perfect octagonal cross, 5 ft. in height, the shaft finishing square as it approaches the base. In a field called Firestones, adjacent to this cross, was found, early in the present century, an earthen vessel filled with Roman coins of the reign of Severus. The old road, therefore, past Arscot may very possibly have been of Roman construction.

Mr. Cann, of Dishcombe House, whose guests we were during the latter portion of our stay, aware of our love for the antique, kindly drove us over to Drewsteignton, and to the curious cromlech which has for so many centuries stood upon a field at Shilston, a farm belonging to that parish. On arriving at the spot, we found that some three months before, owing to a decay in one of the massive upright stones, the cap-stone, which is of immense weight, had fallen

to the ground, carrying with it two of the upright supports. These supports measure about 6½ ft. each in height, the horizontal stone being from 12 to 14 feet across in the widest part, and about 2 feet thick.

The Logan (or rocking) Stone, also in this parish, we had not time to explore; but we passed a few minutes in the parish church of Drewsteignton, which is at present undergoing restoration and repair. This church is essentially, like that of South Tawton, a Perpendicular structure; but there are details here and there which seem to indicate, or, at all events, to be copies of, rather earlier work. There are some interesting cruciform slabs, without inscriptions, now doing duty as flags in the north and south aisles. The font is circular, and apparently of Early English work; but there is a broad iron clamp surrounding, nay, almost hiding the upper rim, and such a profusion of cement about other portions of the relic, that it is unsafe to do more than guess at its precise date.

The sun peeped out invitingly on the last evening of our stay, so, taking the road from Sticklepath along the beautiful valley of the Skey, we presently turned off to the right, in order to ascend the mountain ridge to Belstone, a village standing at a very appreciable height above the level of the sea. We passed nothing of interest on our way through the village, *en route* to the Tors above, except the remains of the stone stocks, wherein the Belstone dissolutes of past days did public penance for their misdeeds. The church is a diminutive structure, and without any external pretensions to beauty: it has but one entrance, namely, through a porch at the north-west end. We found the church door locked, and the key not forthcoming; so that we can say nothing of its interior, nor of its title to be considered, as it has been by some writers, an Anglo-Saxon edifice. Whatever its age may be, it is clear that the Belstone ladies of those days were not encumbered with hoops or other like superfluous array, for the inner door of the porch is certainly not more than two feet wide. A custom which seems to have been regarded as a *rule* in the primitive Church was reported to us as still surviving here in all its rigour. When the parishioners repair to their church for the celebration of Divine service, the sexes immediately separate, the males going to the south and the females to the north side, just as was the case a few years ago in one of the churches of Birmingham. A Warwickshire rhymester has handled this custom in the following lines, which, changing only the name, will apply equally well to the instance before us:

> "The churches and chapels, we usually find,
> Are the places where men unto women are join'd;
> But at Belstone, it seems, they are more cruel-hearted,
> For men and their wives are brought here to be parted."

We inquired for the village cross, and were told that it once stood

attached to an old house, close to the church, which was pulled down several years ago. The then clergyman of Belstone purchased the old materials, and removed the cross to his private garden at the vicarage, about half a mile away. We did not choose to follow it to its hiding-place, fearing we might find it, as we recently did a fine old Norman font, doing duty in the centre of a garden rockery, and garnished with broken pottery and oyster-shells. To our minds such removals are, to say the least of them, mistakes; for these emblems of an old religion, like the churches themselves, are all national property, and ought not to be alienated from the spots on which they were erected by the simple piety of our forefathers.

After breakfast next morning, our worthy host conducted us, by a road evidently now not much frequented, whatever may have been the case in more halcyon days, to the adjacent house of West Wyke, an ancient seat of the Battishills of West Wyke, a family now settled at Spreyton. Here, had time permitted, we could have passed the whole day, scrutinizing the remains of antiquity that we met at every turn. As it was, however, we had just leisure enough to snatch a general glance at this fine old Elizabethan mansion, bearing on its timeworn front the date "Anno Do. 1585." Then there was the enclosed inner courtyard, now a mere potato garden, with its Tudoresque gateway, bearing the arms of the Battishills on either side, the initials of a later proprietor of the name, "W. B.," and the date over all, "1656." Passing through this gateway, kindly opened for us by the tenant, we found ourselves approaching a fine old projecting porch, about which the ivy and other evergreens were clinging, as they seemed to have done undisturbed for centuries. Here, alas! the dreams we had been indulging about the house and its former possessors—about the rank and beauty that had daily graced that festive scene, and had passed and repassed that venerable porch—all vanished into air as we turned to look in; for the great porch of West Wyke had been degraded into a hen-roost! Under a large old tree in the outer courtyard we found another octagonal cross, the head of which is unfortunately gone, but testifying that the Battishills of a yet earlier day were not ashamed of the faith in which they had been born and bred. We left the house by another route, alongside a shady avenue of trees, which had evidently once formed the principal approach to West Wyke, and which soon brought us into the great high-road to Exeter, just above South Zeal. . . .

Three Days' Excursion on Dartmoor.

[1795, *Part II., pp.* 910-912.]

If the following extract from a MS., entitled "Three Days' Excursion on Dartmoor, etc., with some slight remarks on the long-

intended cultivation and enclosure of the said moor," coincides with your plan, it is perfectly at your service. JOHN LASKEY.

Monday, July 21.—Having met this day by appointment at Sacker's bridge, in the parish and hundred of Ermington, we set off thence on our tour about 3 o'clock in the afternoon, bent our course towards Tavistoke, or Tavistock, and soon passed the venerable seat of Blatchford, the residence of Sir Frederick Lemon Rogers, and, shortly after, found ourselves on the edge of Cornwood and Torch Moors, which seemed to serve for no other purpose, in the mass of things, than as elevations for viewing more pleasing prospects surrounding; Nature here having apparently denied every benefit which, in general, she so lavishly bestows, as the few woolly tenants dispersed here and there seemed fully to witness; in short, these spots seemed to be the fag-end of her work. The only remarkable thing we observed here was a species of stone, much resembling marble, of a jet-black colour, with veins and spots of fine white opaque spar, and, as near as I could guess, belonging or nearly allied to *Marmor nigerrimum venis maculisque albis variegatum* of Da Costa; it seems to be plentiful, and, if it would answer the purpose of limestone, it must be of value to the neighbourhood, but a thing so obvious can hardly be supposed to have remained hitherto unnoticed. After travelling for some miles on this sort of soil, we arrived at the brow of a hill, and were suddenly and agreeably surprised with a view of the beautiful spot of Meavy, which appeared quite an assemblage of groves, meadows, orchards and rich pastures, in short, quite an Eden in a desert. This spot we soon left, after taking notice of some irregular hills to the east of Tavistoke, supposed by us to be Roose Torrs and Mis Torrs on the moor. We also passed a few rivulets, no way remarkable, and arrived at the King's Arms Inn, at Tavistoke, about evening's dusk, where the busy hum and bustle of crowded streets, noisy children, and lamps just lighted, formed a pleasing contrast to the still scenes just passed. . . .

Tuesday, 22.—Rising early, we proceeded towards Lidford, and, in the way, examined the top of Brent-Torr. This torr is very curious, it being one mass of hills rising to a great height from a perfect plain, and entirely divested of everything of the kind besides itself, and differing from all the other torrs which we visited; we found it covered (between the rocks) with a fine verdure, and every indication of a very rich soil, far different from the heath which surrounds it. We brought away some bits of the rock, which, in general, is a deep, rusty blue inclining to black, hard and heavy, with pores here and there as if worm-eaten; some of the pores contain a little of a brownish-red earth, but whether of the ochre kind we could not determine. Near the top of the torr some pieces were found more porous, even resembling a cinder or a piece of burnt bread, and very light; we supposed it to be a variety of *Tophus.*

Another observation was very striking, that this torr does not contain a single particle of granite that we could discover; in this it differs from most of the other torrs we visited, though we found some torrs on the west side of the river Lid, which contained stones of a similar porosity. From the above observation we were led strongly to believe that this remarkable torr was the effect or remains of some long-ago-extinguished volcano, as in its appearance, situation, soil, strata, etc., it argues strongly for it; it appears also a great similarity to the description in "Brydone's Tour through Sicily," etc., of the hills which he calls "The Offspring of Etna." On the top of this torr stands a church, which has a fine, bold appearance, particularly from the northern side. We were informed it serves for a mark for sailors that bear for Plymouth Haven. The whim for building a church in such an elevated situation is a matter rather unaccountable. Possibly, in the days of superstition, they might think it peculiarly meritorious to take extraordinary pains to serve God.

We then directed our course towards Lidford cataract, which we could not find for some time by mistaking the turning which led to it, which carried us a mile beyond the spot. We were recompensed, however, by many beautiful views of the river Lid, as it winds through the deep woody vale between Lidford Bridge and the cataract. On finding our mistake, we returned to a farmhouse which we had passed, and were conducted to the cataract by a little girl whom we enriched by a present (probably to her noble) of half-a-crown. The many humble curtseys, and "Thankee, sirs," spoke the joyous feelings of a grateful heart. Lidford cataract is a very fine fall of water, concealed in a deep and narrow valley, the sides of which are almost perpendicular and thickly clothed with wood, interspersed with the *Rubus Idæus spinosus fructu rubro*, or raspberry, the red berries of which, intermixed with the black fruit of the *Rubus major fructu nigro*, or common blackberry bush, had a very pleasing appearance. Through this valley runs the river Lid; the cataract is no part of the river, but is formed of a large brook which falls into it by tumbling down the precipice; . . . when viewed from the bottom it appears to issue from the top from an almost perpendicular rock, about 100 feet in height, but meeting with an obstruction about midway, which, scattering abroad a part of the water, has a fine effect; thence it runs down against the rock, which continues almost perpendicularly to the bottom, which is worn, by the corrosiveness of the water, as straight and as smooth as if cut down by art. After we had gratified our curiosity from this point of view we ascended a narrow and dangerous path along the side of the valley to a part of the stream seemingly above the place whence the cataract appeared to issue as seen from the bottom; but, to our great surprise, found the water really issued from a greater height, in a very crooked and irregular direction; from this spot we were prevented by the over-

growing of the shrubs and bushes from seeing to the top or to the bottom, the view being intercepted towards the bottom by the obstruction at mid-way and the curvature of the rock. . . .

[1795, *Part II., pp.* 1008, 1009.]

We soon after reached Lidford Bridge, which stands about three quarters of a mile above the cataract over the river Lid: the water running under this bridge is so deep sunk between two rocks, that it is scarce to be seen, and yet so narrow that only one moderate arch suffices to cross it. An oral tradition is handed to us, that a man on horseback has unknowingly leaped over it in a dark night, when the bridge was broken. The water, which is between 60 and 70 feet from the top of the bridge, runs with a thundering noise. . . . Having crossed this bridge, a few paces brought us to the wretched remains of the once flourishing town of Lidford (anciently called Lyghatford); it is a king's demesne (now called Ancient Demesne), and, as appears from their charter in King Edward's days, had 140 burgesses; it is now shrunk from its original splendour, and appears a mere nothing, there remaining at present but a few hovels, and these of the most wretched structure. During the Saxon Heptarchy it was a town of some note, and even so great have been its privileges, that it was not rated at any other time, or other cause whatsoever than London was, but now reduced even below the consequence of the most insignificant borough! . . . Some remaining parts of its walls have been discovered in a field at some distance; and, by a moderate computation, must have stood on a space of ground equal to Exeter. It was destroyed by the Danes in the nineteenth year of Ethelbred's reign, A.D. 997, when they arrived in the river Tamar, and devastated with fire and sword all that lay in their route, among which this town was one. At first view, it appeared strange such a town of note was never rebuilt like most other places that suffered by the Danish fury; but, on recollection, and viewing the situation, etc., we wondered no more, being situated on the Moor, and overlooked by the moor hills; consequently, must have been in winter seasons, nay, for three parts in a year, a black, inhospitable dreary place, subject to all the storms, without the least shelter, which are well known to arise on the moor, and round its cloud-capped snowy towers. As no records of its antiquity remain (as far as I can discover, so says Risdon), we may be allowed the supposition that it was first founded in the uncivilized days of the ancient giant-like Albionists, such as are reported to have been the first inhabitants of this island, or at least by Corinæus's companions, that vanquished these. Their well-known attachment to barbarous customs and rough situations leaves it without a doubt to have been inhabited by one of these people, it now possessing all that wildness and dreariness

of which they were so fond; therefore it can be no wonder the more civilized Danes never thought of rectifying it.

Lidford Castle came next under our observation: a plain square building, containing nothing very curious or remarkable. It seems to be of considerable antiquity; one of the sides appears to be undermining; consequently we suppose it will not remain many years in its present state. The windows, or rather loopholes, are small and narrow, and placed in the building without regularity. There are many spacious and large rooms, particularly one which appears to have been lately repaired, and contains a table, seats, etc., for holding the forest courts. On the left, just within the entrance of the castle, a trap-door opens into what is called the dungeon. It is a square room, many feet below the level of the entrance; and, it being here almost dark, and the descent perpendicular, it is a very dangerous pit for strangers unacquainted with the same. We observed in the walls of this castle stones of a like porosity with those of Brent Torr, already described. Something of their court of judicature may be collected from Jacob, who, in his law-dictionary, says, "Lidford law was a proverbial speech, and intending as much as to hang a man first, and judge him afterwards." About three o'clock in the afternoon, we again pursued our route towards Cranmere Pool, on foot, and visited a fall of water, about one mile from Lidford Castle, on the south of a torr known by the name of Lynx Torr, called Kit's Hole. This cascade, though much inferior in height, still exhibits a very pleasing appearance. It is formed by the whole river Lid bursting out from a very narrow passage, and falling from rock to rock. The passage is formed between two rocks which seem split on purpose by the force of some vast Herculean instrument. . . .

Its first appearance from between the rocks was exceedingly beautiful. About four miles from Lidford we arrived at a tin-work called Kerbeam. This work is an old pit, long lain dormant, but now again reworked. The stone below is of a reddish granite, of a harsh texture, terrene, and very brittle, with black mica. In all directions it appears to be the fifth variety of Da Costa's *Granita rubescens, Granita orientalis, rubra dicta.* An old Cornish miner, who belonged to the work, informed us that it was as fine a country for the produce of tin as he ever saw. We then pursued our journey in search of Cranmere Pool (but, ere we proceed, it will be necessary here to observe that about a mile from Lidford, to the south of a torr called Lynx Torr, there are seen three others, which Down, in his map, has not noted; their names are Brat Torr, Sharp Torr, and Hare Torr); according to our directions, we were to have passed a little to the North of Sharp Torr; but, mistaking Brat Torr for it, we missed our track, though according to the map, on examining it more directly towards the pool, this route brought us to an old stream tin-

work, which we found no way curious. We then proceeded by our compass in search of the pool, and passed a valley through which runs a rivulet towards the south; farther on we came near a final river, which appeared to run in the same direction, and then to wind its course northerly; through this vale opened a pretty view of part of the North Hams, which seemed at no great distance; also a white seat appeared, a great way off, in the middle of it (a more particular account of this river and seat will be seen in my remarks on the geography of the Moor, and the map made use of). We were much at a loss to account for this river, as it could answer to none in the map but the West Okement, which runs out of the pool we were in search of; on that supposition our route was too much towards the north; therefore, leaving the bend of this river, we inclined more to the south, hoping to find the pool, or meet the river again in its winding. Another valley now appeared, but was found, on exploring it, not to contain the object of our search.

[1795, *Part II., pp.* 1080-1082.]

We observed in this route the moor on the western side of the river Lid to be a tolerable soil, apparently fit for pasture; but on the eastern side it begins to degenerate, particularly after passing the first torrs, where it puts on the true moorish aspect, producing the *Vitis idæa foliis oblongis crenatis fructa nigricante*, or black whortleberry bushes, in abundance, with most of the varieties of *Erica*, or heath, intermixing its varied tints or forms with the golden velvety appearance of the blossom of the *Genista spinosa*, or furze, affording to the eye a pleasing relief to the barren aspect surrounding. Farther on we observed black wood was cut, but it appears in this part of the moor it is not found in any great plenty. Black wood is a terrene, soft, black, spongy substance plentifully intermixed with a small, spiry kind of root, lying about half a foot beneath the surface, bearing a strong resemblance to the stocks or butts of rushes, but of a more unctuous substance. This is dug by the poorer class of people, and dried in cakes about 12 inches in length, 6 or 7 inches in breadth, and 2 inches thick, and used by them for firing. It is also made into a kind of charcoal, which is much used by smiths for tempering edge tools, and it is said to be far preferable to any other coal for that purpose. The ground here we found to be very swampy, and passable (on foot only) on condition of being wet-shod. Most of these swampy places may be known by the verdure and green moss growing on them. We found, the farther we penetrated on the moor, the soil to grow bad in proportion, and the track of our return from the search after Cranmere Pool to be black and spongy, full of bare and moist channels resembling gutters, which made it very troublesome for walking, it being neither safe nor agreeable to tread in them. As to riding on horseback in this part of the moor, we considered it

to be impracticable. A gentleman of my acquaintance has since informed me there is a small neck or isthmus of dry, solid ground, by which a person well acquainted with it can go on horseback to the pool from the north or north-west. The sheep being the only cattle we saw here pleaded strongly the extreme poverty of the soil by their meagre appearance. The living waters have a black colour, and the stagnant pools a nauseous taste (no ways mineral), proceeding from the soil. A singularity we also observed here, that the highest ground was the most swampy. The rocks are entirely of the *Granita albissima micis magnis nigris argenteisque notata* of Da Costa and the moorstone of Woodward and Hill. At the torrs large masses were piled one on the other like huge cheeses; they did not otherwise strike us to be any wise curious. The farther we proceeded on the moor, the fewer these rocks were to be found. . . .

Tavistoke, or Tavistock, which derives its name from the river Tave (on the banks of which it stands), is an ancient borough by prescription, governed by a portreve chosen at the court-leet of the Duke of Bedford, who is lord of the manor, to whom it gives the title of marquis. It possesses the privilege of coining of tin, and holding monthly stannary courts; also a market, and four fairs yearly. The market house is handsome, being lately built at the expense of the inhabitants. The town in general seems to be tolerably well built, and flourishing from its trade, which consists principally of the woollen manufactory. It is also well supplied with water, which runs almost through every street, and we were told there was a famous chalybeate mineral spring here, but had not time to visit it. We apprehend this town was once walled, as we observed two very magnificent gate ways, but could discover no other remains now left. On peeping into Risdon's "Survey of Devon" for information, I find this pretty story preserved. As early as the days of King Edgar, the first unresisted monarch of this land, Orgarius, Duke of Devon (whom Polydore calls Hordogarius), kept his court here, of the beauty and excellence of whose daughter tradition has handed down this tale: That King Edgar, hearing much praise of the beauty and accomplishments of Elfleda (daughter of Orgarius) sent Ethelwold to woo her in his name. He, finding report had not belied her, turned traitor, and wooed her in his own, at the same time keeping his master's embassy a profound secret, returning Edgar this answer, "that the fair damsel came far short of such perfection as fame gave out, and in no ways for feature fit for a king." This, as may be supposed where beautiful features was the object of love, soon blunted the keen edge of the king's passion, and Ethelwold took her for wife. This proceeding of his soon created jealous fears in the bosom of Edgar, for the quieting of which he paid Orgarius a visit, under the mask of a hunting-match. Ethelwold, hearing this, and well knowing his treachery, was much alarmed, and, discovering the secret to his

wife, desired her to appear before the king in the most homely attire. She, enraged at having missed being the consort of a king, resolved that Ethelwold should smart for it, and at the coming of Edgar dressed herself in her most elegant attire, and so appeared. Edgar was immediately struck with her surpassing beauty, but had such command of his temper as to elude the watching eye of Ethelwold. However, during the hunting-match, poor Ethelwold lost his life by an arrow or javelin piercing him quite through the body at a place called Wilverley, since Warlewood. However, this history does not tell us whether the earl lost his life by accident or design, or whether the fatal shaft was aimed immediate from the king's own hand, or by his direction. . . .

We next took a transient view of the church, and found it bore a modern appearance, with a public gateway through the tower, which has a tolerable ring of eight tunable bells, being the present of one of their members of Parliament, the inhabitants having their choice either of an organ or ring of bells. We were here shown a leg and thigh bone, and, by the person who showed the same, told that they belonged to a giant. The former measured 20, the latter 21 inches, but according to these proportions the person to whom they belonged could not have been much above 6½ feet high. We next viewed the abbey, which we found to be very magnificent in its appearance, and being blended and intermixed with more modern structures, greatly added to its venerable show of grandeur, and serves as a curious specimen of the ancient taste in architecture, pointing out one degree of splendour in which the fathers of superstition lived. Being now inhabited, there is reason to suppose it will remain a monument of their greatness for ages to come, unless new fashions and improvements, in a gay and large town, should prove more fatal to this range of building than the corroding hand of Time.

We find by history that Ordulph (son of Orgarius) founded this abbey (being admonished so to do by a vision) A.D. 961, and replenished the same with Black Monks, Augustines, and consecrated it to St. Mary and St. Burien. The situation of this abbey is truly picturesque and beautiful, its walls running a long way by the side of the river Tave, between which and the walls there is an agreeable public walk. The river, by being broken and interrupted in its course by large rocks, forms many pleasing natural cataracts and bays, affording a safe asylum to the fish inhabiting this river from the nets of the deadly poacher, at the same time affording the fair fisherman infinite amusement, either for the angle or fly. The hanging woods on the opposite banks, combined with the romantic situation of the river, formed a pleasing object. Being unwilling to give trouble, and not having sufficient time to investigate in a more particular manner these remains of antiquity, we thought it most

proper not at this time to view the internal parts, but beg to refer to Master Risdon for further knowledge. He tells us, that the founder and his father lie buried in this abbey, and that they were men of gigantic stature and strength. I cannot at present positively charge my memory, but think the bones shown at the church are said to be part of the remains of one of them. St. Rumon, bishop of the place, and Edwin, son of King Ethelbred, also lie there. He also tells us it contained a public school, and that lectures were read in the Saxon tongue (down to the time of his grandfather, which was probably about the sixteenth century), for preserving the antiquities, laws, and histories, formerly written in that language, from oblivion. Smollett, in his "Present State of all Nations," says that in the beginning of the civil wars a Saxon grammar was printed here. This abbey scarce arrived at the age of thirty years when it was ravaged by the Danes and burnt, but, like the phœnix, it again soon revived. Its endowment was the pious charity of that age, which amounted, at the fatal downfall of such structures, to the vast sum of £903 5s. 7¾d. per annum. Thereby the abbot growing rich and proud, his ambition affected a mitre, then aspired to be admitted a baron of the higher House of Parliament (and held Hardwick the principal place of his barony), and, lastly, to contend with Hugh Oldham, Bishop of Exon; which Oldham, dying *pendente lite*, was excommunicated, and his executors were forced to sue to the Court of Rome for a dispensation from the pope ere he might be buried. In the course of our walk this morning I picked up (under the abbey walls) the *Phalæna pavonia* (emperor moth), knocked down by the *Hirundo rustica* (swallow), whose great eagerness to possess so beautiful and delicate a morsel made him rush by my ear with so great a velocity that it made me start. Immediately we saw the gay insect fluttering on the ground. . . .

J. L.

[1796, *Part I., pp.* 34-36.]

At eleven o'clock in the morning we set out from Tavistock in search of Crockern Torr and other remarkable places on the moor, taking especial care to furnish our servant with a stock of cold provisions and a bottle of *vinum bonum*. We took the Exeter road, and having to the best of our knowledge ascertained the spot, we proceeded on foot to the northward to examine some torrs and search for Wistman's Wood. After searching in vain for some time, and being arrived at the third torr and finding no wood, we were under some perplexity concerning it; however, on clambering to the top of one of the torrs, we discovered it a little behind us. Near the river it is an assemblage of low scrubby oak-trees, or rather large bushes of underwood, seemingly of great antiquity, occupying a space of about half an acre of ground, the spaces between the trees being covered with immense moorstone rocks almost touching the lower boughs of the trees. At this time they come far short of the description Risdon,

in his "Survey of Devon," gives, few of them that we observed having anything like an upright trunk of a fathom about; one of the largest and loftiest that we observed possessing a trunk of about 2 feet high, which spreads regularly into three branches. This famous wood also possesses a few bushes of the *Falix*, or willow-tree of the mountain variety, the *Fraxinus vulgaris*, common ash-tree, and a few plants of the *Sorbus aucuparia*, mountain ash, or wild service-tree. . . . We now proceeded to investigate the torr, and searched for the table, seats, etc., said to be used in the stannary parliaments held here, but could not discover them, and we were led to imagine the rocks and detached smaller masses were used for that purpose; and for this, in the rude age of simplicity, the torr seems well adapted, consisting, not like most of the other torrs we visited, of high and steep piles of rocks, but of a great number of separate ones scattered on the ground to a considerable extent, some in single masses, others double and triple in such manner as may tolerably well serve for tables and seats, and be fancied as such by a fertile imagination; as to anything regular or artificial, there did not appear to us the smallest trace, the whole seems to remain as when formed by nature—the rocks scattered without any visible order or design, and no appearance of any tool ever having been employed on them. I here found a curious fragment of a flint with concentric curved lines, which I preserved and added to that part of my collection to which it belongs. We by no means supposed this flint to be a natural production of this place, but brought from a distance and lodged there for use; or it might have been the property of some poring naturalist, and there casually lost—it had no appearance of ever being used against the steel. This was the only particle of flint we perceived during the whole course of our tour on the moor. The great disparity between the strata of Dartmoor and a sister eminence of great extent (Halldown), which consists of one bed of flints, very forcibly struck us. We now turned our horses towards Holne, and returned to Two Bridges for greater safety and certainty of getting into the Holne road; but seeing a very good cut leading across the moor we struck into the same, which brought us into a fine road, following which for about a mile we arrived at a large brook running south. On referring to the sketch of the map it was found not to be the road which we supposed it to be, being on the other side of the river Dart. Proceeding, however, on it we came to Dunnabridge Pound, and on inquiry found it led to Newbridge, and was the Ashburton road; but that there was a nearer way to Holne, which would save a mile or more. A man of that place became our guide and pointed out this road, which is entered from the Ashburton road at a gate leading into a green lane. Having forded the Dart (or as our guide called it the West Dart) and ascended the opposite hill we came to Coombstone Rock—it consists of three very large

masses of stone piled one on the other like cakes, the sides nearly perpendicular, and the upper parts flat. Thence we proceeded to Holne, where we refreshed ourselves and horses on good homely fare and courteous obliging behaviour. In crossing the moor in this part of our peregrination we were mostly on horseback, therefore could not make many very particular observations, such as were made being superficially. We observed that west of a bridge called Merrivil Bridge it was very rocky, and the soil but poor; but farther on we observed several spots enclosed with walls for cultivation. These spots we apprehend to be called New Takes (in the Old Latin Rolls *Sepimentum*), and held by grants from the Prince of Wales, each supposed to be equivalent to eight acres of good land, though sometimes containing in quantity near ten times as much. Farther on the soil improves, and black wood is cut in great plenty. About Two Bridges and Crockern Torr it is very good pasture; but though there are many such enclosures as just mentioned producing corn, etc., we do not recollect seeing the least appearance of timber, excepting Wistman's Wood, till we were got some way to the east of Dunnabridge Pound. From the pound to Holne the lands south of the river Dart are mostly enclosed, and put on the appearance of the incountry. Great part of this route laying through the *Genista spinosa*, furze, made it very troublesome. As we drew near Holne, and the parish of Buckland, we found wood plentiful, mostly of the *Ulnus vulgarissima folio lato scabro*, common rough-leaved elm, and here and there clumps of single trees of the *Quercus latifolia*, common oak. The stone on the moor, as far as we observed it this day, was all of the granite or moorstone species. Holne, otherwise Holme, formerly Holeland, possessed a monastery of the white monks, who were greatly condemned for their covetousness, as appears by the words of King Richard I., in answer to one Fulk, a Frenchman (a man in great esteem for his godliness and piety), who told Richard that he fostered three daughters which would incur the wrath of God if he did not shortly free himself from them. "Thou hypocrite," says Richard, "the world well knoweth I never was the father of children." Fulk still persisted he was the father of three. Which assertion so roused the king's choler that he threatened Fulk highly; who, to appease him, discovered his meaning, saying that his three daughters were pride, covetousness, and lechery. "If that is the case," replied the king, "I will presently rid myself of them. First, the white monks of Holne shall have my covetousness, the knights templars my pride, and the clergy my lust. Thus have you my three daughters bestowed amongst you." Edulph, Bishop of Crediton, held half an hide of land here. Then Otheline inherited it. After him William Bozun, since Nicholas de la Yeo. . . . Of the village of Buckland we observed nothing remarkable; but find it is commonly called Buckland in the Moor, that from its site Roger de Buckland

took his name, a man of great worth and wealth, from whom sprang William de Buckland, who was sheriff of Devon and Cornwall five successive years. After being sufficiently refreshed and recovered from the fatigue we left Holne and proceeded towards Buckfast Abbey, which we viewed with a great deal of pleasure, and thought the time well spent. From which we proceeded towards Modbury at a pretty good rate, taking the direct road. . . . J. L.

[1796, *Part I., pp.* 194-196.]

Buckfast, Buckfastre, or Buckfastleigh Abbey, is a ruin of large extent, and deserves a more particular description than we can give [see *post*, pp. 151-2]. It was founded by Duke Alfred before the Conquest, and replenished with white monks of the order of Cistercians, and dedicated to the honour of the Blessed Virgin Mary. At the surrender its yearly income amounted to £464 11*s.* 2*d.* In the reign of the second Richard, William Slade, a learned monk, belonged to this house. There now remain of this magnificent ruin two arches, which appear to have been the entrance, and some ruins on a large scale, which we took for the lodge. The arches are situated one behind the other, and stand across the road leading from Buckfastleigh to Ashburton; the iron staples for the gates to hang on still remain, and are of great bigness, which led us to think they were of massy structure. The ruins of what we took to be the lodge stand on the eastern side, its length about 20 paces, breadth 8 paces (not being supplied with proper conveniences for a minute measurement, we were obliged to content ourselves with it thus roughly, taking care to diminish rather than exaggerate). On the same side are several apartments, one of which is inhabited, another is converted into a pound-house, in which stands a moorstone trough of great bulk, for the purpose of breaking apples for the pound. The following measurements I received from a learned gentleman who has paid great attention to these ruins: the diameter of this stone is 9 feet 4 inches, depth 3 feet 6 inches, one half of which is sunk in the ground; the supposed weight before it was hollowed he computes must amount to above 100 tons. It is of the granite kind, and affords matter of surprise by what means it was brought and placed there, stones of that quality not being to be found within the distance of many miles, round the abbey being one continued lime-rock, which is worked at many places to a depth, height and extent surprising, and forming a vast cavern, at once terrific and beautiful, which proves an inexhaustible fund of gain to the owner. The remainder of these ruins are situated in an orchard on the western side of the road, at the bottom of which runs with silent murmur the river Dart, seemingly regretting the downfall of the abbey. The first thing that presents itself, tradition says, was the abbot's cellar, which is entered by a small Gothic gateway, and is about 28 paces long and 12 wide, arched

overhead, and in days of yore, no doubt, well stored with delicious liquors, of which the monks knew passing well the true *goût*. But, alas! so great is the change that even Richard III.'s stone coffin being used as a drinking-trough for horses at an inn could not be a greater contrast. Instead of rosy-gilled fathers of *abstinence* filling the luxurious bowl from this sacred repository, it is now become the summer shield for the brute creation, who seek to cool their feet in the miry puddle, formed by the overflowing of a most excellent spring of sweet and clear water on the eastern side of this cellar. At one end remain a few steps, which led to the ruin above, which our guide told us was the abbot's kitchen, it is now converted into a kitchen-garden. At the south end is the skeleton of a set of apartments, which appear to have been the cells of the monks, which was approached by winding steps, fifty-one of which now remain. It is of a particular form, having, as well as we could guess, seven sides. The immense bushes of ivy, dropping in rich festoons, almost buried its form. On removing some of these bushes we could plainly observe the holes in which the joists and sleepers rested for the support of the flooring, from which we judged the rooms to be about 6 feet in height in the clear, one above the other. These, we were told, solely belonged to the abbot. Joining this was their court of judicature and judgment-seat, and behind a dungeon for those that by their offences were thought worthy of the same. On the north-east side appear the walls and foundation of this once spacious and splendid seat of superstition; the abbey church and the remains of its tower all lying in such massy fragments, that it is scarcely to be conceived by what power so vast a fabric could be disjoined. The walls appear to be of the thickness of 9 or 10 feet, and entirely composed of small stones in layers, and a compost of lime and sand, which we supposed to have been thrown on these layers hot, after the method anciently used in such large building, which, incorporating together, formed a mass as solid as the native rock. The ruins of the church appear to be about 250 feet in length, and the ruins of the tower towards the south seem like huge and vast rocks piled one on another in extensive confusion.

These ruins, in all probability, will continue unmolested for ages to come (as stone for building is plentiful in the neighbourhood), a monument of the grandeur in which the sons of the papal church then lived. . . . In the town of Buckfastleigh I picked up by accident a silver coin, having the bust of Richard III. The person I had it of, being a labourer, informed me he found it among the ruins of Buckfast Abbey. I do not find it edited either by Wife, Folkes or Snelling, but on perusing Noble's "Dissertation on the Mint and Coins of the Episcopal Palatines of Durham" I find a coin nearly similar, the only observable difference being in the mint-mark, that mentioned by Noble having a boar's head, and the one in my

possession a cross patée ; Noble's also possesses a figure of the cross on the breast of the king, which the other has not. He tells us his is a penny of Bishop Sherwood, who had the temporalities restored to him the 6th of August, in the first year of the reign of Richard III., and that he survived the tyrant many years. The mottoes of these pennies are exactly similar reading: on the obverse, RICARDVS REX ANGLIE, with the head of the king, full face, within a circle of annulets ; the reverse, CIVITAS DVNOLM, a cross patée quartering a circle of annulets, with the usual type of three annulets in each quarter. I still have my doubts whether this penny may be attributed to Bishop Sherwood, through the circumstance of the mint-mark ; Noble saying the usual mint-mark used by him was the boar's head, and that the regal money usually carried the same mark. I have seen several engravings of various pennies bearing Richard's head with various mint-marks, but have never, as yet, found one as above described, therefore suppose it to be unique. . . . Within the parish of Buckfastleigh, we are told, stand the remains of an old fort, called the Henbury fort, including a large plot of ground, standing on the top of a hill. For want of time we omitted visiting it.

[1796, *Part I., pp.* 275, 276.]

After breakfast I strolled about the town, found nothing very curious or remarkable. It is distinguished by the name of Great Modbury (or Mortbury) and Little Modbury. It has a tolerable market on Thurdays, generally well supplied with provisions, and two fairs yearly on the feasts of St. George and St. James. The church stands in an elevated situation, with a tolerably lofty spire: the communion plate, I was told, is remarkably rich and valuable. Modbury hath been noted, even as long ago as King Henry III.'s day, for brewing nappy ale ; of which Henry of Auranches, a poet of that date, wrote thus :

> " Of this strong drink, much like to Stygian lake
> (Most term it ale), I know not what to make;
> Folk drink it thick, and pass it out full thin,
> Much dregs therefore must needs remain therein."

Little Modbury was formerly the dwelling of Sir Ralph Rouse in Henry III.'s time. The last of this place (as Risdon says) had issue Elizabeth, first married to Peverel, secondly to Dymock, and thirdly to Walter Cornu, son of Alan Cornu. She had issue only by Dymock.

About four miles from Modbury, in my route homeward, stands the little village of Bromston, consisting of a few scattered houses, Reginald de Valletort, Lord of Modbury gave it to Ralph de Morville. From him it descended to his son Adam, who granted it to Baldwin de Wayford, who gave it to the abbey of Buckfastleigh in the reign of Henry III. About a mile farther onwards we crossed

the river Aun at a stone bridge, called Gearer Bridge. Thence we pass a small village by the name of Morleigh. It is very ancient; as I find, by records, that in the reign of Edward I., 1272, Sir Peter Fizacre, Knt., held lands here, then belonging to the parish of Woodleigh (a neighbouring parish); whereupon some controversy arising between him and the parson of Woodleigh touching tithes, the matter being pushed to a great length, Sir Peter in his passion killed the parson; which act was so eagerly followed against the knight, that he was constrained to answer the same at Rome; where the pope enjoined him, for his penance, to build the church of Morleigh; which he accordingly did, and lieth buried in the walls there, arched over. At a small distance thence are the remains of an old fortification, now no otherwise than a large circular heap of stones; also a circumvallation of great extent, with several large tumuli, five of which stand close together, one of them very large and lofty. Very near the outward edge of the circumvallation, some others are observed at a distance; on one of which, known by the name of the Beacon (in the adjoining parish of Halwell), stands a very neat pleasure-house, built by Colonel Edmonds, a gentleman just returned from the East Indies, whose elegant house (new-built) stands in view. I have long had a wish to open one of these tumuli. . . . The name of this fort is Stambers, or Stanborough. About two miles farther on we pass a small hamlet, called Woodaford, with two small rivulets running through the same, which a little below joins and proves the source of filling that elegant and picturesque sheet of water the Lea at Slapton Cellars. This sheet of water occupies some hundreds of acres, and has no visible outlet, draining itself through the sand of the beach into the sea, which is scarcely distant a stone's throw. It is well stored with the *Perca flaviatilis*, perch, *Lucius efox*, pike, *Cyprinus rutilus*, roach, and immense quantities of the *Anguilla*, or eel; and the *Fulica*, bald coot, in abundance, finding here a safe breeding place among the vast quantities of the *Arundo*, or reed, here called Lea reeds. In winter every kind of wild fowl is to be found on its surface in the greatest plenty. From this hamlet, ascending the hill, we arrived at the pleasant village of Blackauton (anciently Aveton). This village was given to the abbey of Torr by Herbert Fitz Mathew, as appears by this old record: "Petrus, fil. Mathei. conc. abbat de Torr totum mannerium de Aulton cum corpore suo post mortem hidem quiescendo salvo Rogero fratri suo et hæred. de carne suo progenit X marcus annui redditus in certo assign. teste domino Nicholas de Mules." And the following evidence shows that William le Speke left all his lands in Aulton to the same abbey: "Willielmus le Speke salut. noverint me pro salut. etc., concess. abbat de Torr totam terram meam in Aulton," etc. The parish of Blackauton is very large and populous; its church rather small, which bears its name,

situated about 4 miles from Dartmouth, and 8 from Totnes and Kingsbridge, on a hill most part commanding a fine view of the sea; its vicinity to these towns, and the known healthfulness of its air, being a combination of the sea, land, and moor, induced many gentlemen to make purchases, and fix their residence here, whose houses, from every point of view, have a pleasing appearance.

The church stands on a hill, to appearance raised on purpose, very large, consisting of a nave and two aisles. It is entirely divested of that antique Gothic grandeur which most churches in some degree possess. The chancel and the aisles seem to be of modern origin, and very irregular. The tower, about 80 feet in height, holds a tolerable ring of six bells. The most curious article here is the screen dividing the chancel from the main body of the church: it is of carved wood, in good condition, perfect, and very curious. Near the centre of the nave lies a stone covering the remains of the Forde family, on which are two brass engraved effigies of Margaret and Nicholas Forde, date 1582. There are many other curious epitaphs in the church and yard; but, having left my note-book, must defer giving them you till another opportunity. The late worthy vicar, Thomas Adams, will long be remembered by his parishioners, and was himself a proof of the healthiness of the situation, living to the age of seventy-one; himself and father holding the vicarship above a century. Since the year 1530 only seven vicars have been appointed.

[1796, *Part II., pp.* 545-547.]

Dartmoor, so called from its barren soil, is computed to be about 20 miles long and 14 miles wide, consisting chiefly of a blackish earth, covered with rocks and its fragments; some of these rocks are of great bulk and height, resembling towers of massy bigness, and, from their elevated situation, to be seen at a great distance. The external surface of the moor yields but few productions of the vegetable world, with the exception of whortleberry bushes, heath and furze; its numerous woolly inhabitants speak fully the barrenness of the soil; but, with all these disadvantages, the forest of Dartmoor may truly be said to be rich, its bowels producing great quantities of tin, and, in some parts, turf is cut, and prepared for sale by the adjacent dwellers in great quantities and to a great amount; from these hills the mother of many rivers declineth, some of which take their route and fall into the British Ocean, while others bend their course in a contrary direction, and meet the Severn Sea.

This waste King John assigned to be a forest; and King Henry III. not only confirmed his father's grant, but, among other things, set down its boundaries, a copy of which I shall here set down:

"Perambulatio Ricardi comitis Cornubie et Pictavie tenentis in com' Devon', per preceptum domini regis Henrici filii Johannis ad

coronationem dict' Hen' 24°, in vigilia S'ci Jacobi, per juramentum sacristi subscript', scil', Will' de la Bruer, Guidonis de Bretiville, Will' de Widwerthy, Hugonis de Bolhay, Rich' Giffard, Odonis de Troverby, Henrici filii Henrici, Will' de Trenchard, Phil' Havrer, Nich' de Heamdon, Will' de Northleigh, et Durat' filii Boton, qui incipiunt perambulationem ad Hogam de Cosdowne, et inde linealiter usque ad Parvam Hogam, que vocatur Hounteret, inde usque ad Thurleston, et inde linealiter usque Wotesbrooke, Lakefoot, quæ cadit in Teigne, et inde linealiter usque ad Hangeston, et inde linealiter usque ad Gotestone, et inde linealiter usque ad mediam turbariam Aberhene, et sic in longam Wallabroke, et inde linealiter usque ad furt regis, et inde linealiter usque ad Wallabrooke-head, usque cadit in Darta, et sic per Dartam usque ad aliam Dartam, ascendend' usque ad Abbot foot, et sic ascend' Otbroke, usque ad Leedereoke, et ita ascendend' usque ad le Driffield forde, et inde linealiter usque ad Batshill, ad inde linealiter usque ad caput Westor-Wellabroke, et sic per Westor-Wellabroke usque cadit in Avon, et inde linealiter usque ad Easter Wellabroke, et inde linealiter usque ad Redlake que cadit in Erme, et inde ascend' usque ad Grimsgrove, et inde linealiter usque ad Elisberough, et inde linealiter usque ad crucem Silward, et inde usque ad Efforther, et sic per aliam Efforther, et inde per medium mustum usque at Mewboron, et inde usque ad Willingsesse, et inde ad Rahernbrokefoot, et sic ad caput ejusdem quæ et deinde usque ad le West Soe, et inde linealiter usque ad Grenestor, et inde linealiter usque ad vadum proximum in Orientali parte capelle St. Mich' de Halgestock, et inde linealiter usque ad predict' Hogam de Cosdowne in Orientali parte."

We also find, in and about the moor, a certain species of tenants, known by the name of Fenfield men (in the Saxon *Fengefield*). These are the king's special tenants, and do suit and service at his court, paying him annually; these enjoy the following privileges: they are not to be attached by any officer, but for default of non-payment of their rents, which is fourpence yearly, at Michaelmas; they are privileged to fish in all waters there, and dig turfs, and to have all in the said moor that can do them good, except green oak and venison; also to present at the court (which was held at Lidford) all faults and offences found in and about the moor; also to winter in the moor by day as much cattle as they can keep, but, if they tarry the night, then they were to pay threepence; if they had more cattle than they could winter by night on their tenements, they were then to pay for such as if strangers, viz., for every young cattle three halfpence, and every other greater beast twopence. The bounds and limits of these tenures are as follow: from Podaston Lake, running through Ashburton, in Dart Stream, and so to Wedborne and Shipstop, and from Wedborne Stream to Whitmore, and from Whitmore to Calstone Medicays, from Calstone to Seven-stones, and from

Seven-stones to Hevitree, and from Hevitree to Herborough, thence to Doreford, from Doreford to Longstone, from Longstone to Effedater, thence to Hindon, forwards from Hindon to Blundell, from Blundell to Writestone, from that stone to Roborough, from Roborough to Furzpen, from Furzpen to Ramshorn, thence to Lustleigh, and so to Wythercome-head, thence to Limestream, and so to Voghill Lake, and along that lake to Voghill's head, and then to the ditch, and out of the same to the well in Morshead, into the lake, and so to the Smely, and to Yeredsborough, and from Yeredsborough to Standon, netherward to Great Hynde, thence to Dyersnade, to Lidford, northward to Selict, and from Selict to Gurnard's knoll southward, to Poncartsworth, to Ramscombe Head, to the right stream, thence to Ashbornecton, thence in the stream of Dart, with the town of Lidford and all the tenements.

The moor, from its situation, being so much higher in the atmosphere than the fertile lands adjoining, the air of course must be very different, frosts and snow more frequent and of longer continuance, the winds have greater power, and blow more bleak, and rain and mists must be more prevalent, as we often see the moor-hills involved in clouds, when the lower country is perfectly beautiful, clear and serene. To this add, the waters being so near their source, and no doubt strongly impregnated with metalline particles, and not being softened by exposure to the air, must certainly be of a less fertilizing quality. The article of manure will be another great disadvantage the encloser and cultivator will labour under, this must be deficient in every degree, unless a discovery (almost miraculous) should be made of some at present unknown; sea sand and lime are too remote, and dung is impossible to be attained in sufficient quantity, neither is gypsum nor marl to be found in the whole forest, nor a lime-rock to be seen, the whole being a mass of granite or moor-stone. Dung, therefore, is the only probable manure that can be obtained, and even this not till a considerable degree of cultivation has taken place; for, should towns arise (by the magical touch of harlequinism) in the moor, it is presumed their effects, in regard to this manure, would extend but a little way around them. Neither does it appear to me possible to subdue the natural sterility of the soil, even by implanting on the moor colonies of Chinese or Swiss peasants, who are so well known for their unwearied and persevering industry in the art of agriculture. . . .

[1796, *Part II.*, *pp.* 729, 730.]

The enclosing and cultivating of Dartmoor will evidently never take place, unless it should be proved, or supposed, conducive to the interest of the proprietor; but, considered in a more enlarged point of view, it seems rather doubtful how far it would be of public or general benefit, at least as to those parts which produce blackwood,

or turf, for burning. The scarcity of fuel has been, and still continues, a serious inconvenience in most parts of the country. The farmers find it very difficult, notwithstanding the severity of the laws, to prevent their hedges and young sapling timber from being plundered and cut down by the poor class of people who cannot afford to buy; and the evil seems to be increasing from the enormous price of firewood. Every circumstance, therefore, which lessens the supply of fuel of any kind must add to the inconvenience. It may be alleged that the supply which would arise from planting the moor with wood would be an equivalent for what is lost in turf and blackwood; but I am of an opinion that these spots producing some will always remain on account of their softness and sponginess, being incapable from that reason of supporting any vegetable of a large growth. Supposing it otherwise, and that these spots were planted on, the doubtfulness of the equivalency is very great; it must be many years from the cutting ere another could take place to produce the supply necessary. At present the turf and blackwood (especially the latter), which seems to be of a renewing quality, and inexhaustible, are articles which the poorer inhabitants of the forest could not live without, and are even found of great service, at the distance of many miles around, even to people of good circumstances, and, as the scarcity of other fuel increases, it is highly probable that blackwood may be of yet more extensive use. The rage for improvement of poor lands seems of late to have been carried too far, and instances are not wanting of furze-brakes in particular being cleared and grubbed up, and, in the course of a few seasons, suffered to return to their pristine form (furze-brakes) again, the proprietors finding it, all circumstances considered, more for their advantage and interest. . . .

J. Laskey.

Ashburton.

[1849, *Part I.*, *p.* 194.]

A portion of the ceiling in the southern aisle of St. Andrew's Church, Ashburton, having been some time in a decayed state, was taken down a short time since. On the old panels were discovered various emblematical paintings with foliage, stars, etc. About eighty years ago a handsome stone pulpit, which was elaborately carved, and a brass eagle, were sold to the parish church of Bigbury. The beautiful screen which separated the church from the chancel, together with the screens belonging to the stalls in the south transept, were broken up, part sold for a small sum, and the residue were lodged in an outhouse at the Spread Eagle Inn for several years afterwards, and at last used as wood for lighting fires. The arms of Bishop Oldham, who occupied the See of Exeter in 1507, were recently discovered in a room in Ashburton in excellent preservation. . . .

Awliscombe.

[1812, *Part I., pp.* 424, 425.]

I shall thank you to insert the following Terrier in your lasting pages. Yours, etc., JOHN PRING.

"A Terrier of the Glebe and Vicarage of Awliscombe, etc., made pursuant to the Orders and Directions of the Right Reverend Father in God Stephen, by Divine Permission Lord Bishop of Oxon.

"The vicarage-house is built with mud and earthen walls and covered with thatch, containing four chambers, a kitchen, parlour, hall, and four small ground rooms, floored with earth, but not ceiled, consisting of about two bays of building; the barn and stable adjoining consists of about two bays of building, built with mud walls and covered with thatch.

"The glebe contains, by estimation, thirty acres, the particulars whereof are as follows, viz., six fields of arable land, containing sixteen acres, called by the name of Parks; two fields containing seven acres called Rufflands; one field containing two acres, called Fishel Pit; another containing one acre and a half, called Mouseland; another containing three-quarters of an acre adjoining to Breach Meadow, and a small plot of ground in common with the Rev. Mr. Drake's. One meadow containing one acre and a half, called Foxhill; another containing three-quarters of an acre, called Woodcrofts. The orchard, garden, and homestall contain half an acre; the orchard and homestall fenced with an hedge, and the garden with an earthen wall. There are some old trees remaining on the glebe fit for nothing but gates and posts, and some saplings which are but of a small value.

"The surplice fees are according to the inclination of the people, and Easter offerings are twopence for every person that is above the age of sixteen.

"The meadows belonging to the Right Hon. Lord Petre are exempted from paying tithe, in lieu of which the meadow beforementioned, called Woodcrofts, was given by his predecessors; and the meadows belonging to Roger Tuckfield, Esq., are likewise exempted from paying tithe, in lieu of which the meadow called Foxhill, before mentioned, was given by his predecessors. The use and manner of paying tithe are as follow, viz., for every cow giving milk fourpence, for every calf fourpence, for the foal of every mare a penny, for every hogshead of cider fourpence, for every herb garden a penny, for every acre mown fourpence, for every lamb fourpence, for every fleece of wool twopence, and for every pig twopence, a hearth a penny, honey and geese in kind. The utensils are as follow, viz., two common Prayer-books, a large Bible, a book of

homilies, a surplice and hood, a font of stone, a communion table, a carpet, a white linen table-cloth and napkin, a silver bowl that weighs twelve ounces and a half without any inscription, a tin tankard, basin, and plate, a velvet cushion, a bier, a black cloth, two chests, five bells, and a clock. The church and churchyard are repaired by the churchwardens at the expense of the parish; and the chancel is repaired at the expense of the Impropriator.

"The clerk is paid at this time, by the appointment of the parish, two pounds and twelve shillings a year, and the sexton one pound and three shillings. Roger Martyn, Vicar of Awliscombe. John Fry, Thomas Shepherd, churchwardens, 1728.

"The principal inhabitants of the parish: John Fry, Gent., William Fry, John Husey, Josias Husey, Roger Bishop, William Pring, Daniel Pring, Thomas Bampfield, Daniel Pring."

[1817, *Part I., pp.* 492, 493.]

I send you a copy of the monumental inscriptions, etc., at Awliscombe in Devonshire, that they may be preserved when the stones, like the persons they commemorate, are to be seen no more.

Z. X.

On the chancel floor:

1. "Here lieth . . . of John Ba . . . of Artes, late vicar of this parish, and Elizabeth his wife, which John dyed the 16th daye of December, Anno Dom. 1637; and the said Elizabeth dyed the 9th day of January following."

2. "Here lyes y^e^ body of Mary, y^e^ wife of John Smith, of Honiton, gent. (dau^r^ of y^e^ Rev^d^ Mr. George Passemer and Susanna his wife), who dyed y^e^ 5th of March 1741, aged 52. Also of John Smith their son, who was buried y^e^ 6th of Feb^y^, 1729, aged 8 mon^s^. Also of Will^m^ their son, buried y^e^ 24th of Sep^tr^ 1730, aged 6 weeks. Also of Mary their da^tr^, buried y^e^ 18th of Jan^y^ 1733, aged 2 years. Also of Susanna their da^tr^, buried y^e^ 10th of March, 1735, aged 10 y^rs^."

3. "Underneath this stone lie the remains of Mrs. Amelia Elphinstone, widow to the late John Elphinstone, esq., Captain of the British, and Admiral of the Russian Fleet, and daughter of the late John Warburton, esq., Somerset Herald at Arms. She departed this life at Tracey House in this parish, the 16th Feb., 1786, aged 50, sincerely regretted by her numerous family, who cherish with reverence and respect the memory of her virtues. Also near this place lie the remains of her grandson, Henry Hartwell, who died the 11th March, 1786, aged 8 months."

On a marble slab against the chancel wall:

4. "Hic jacent Georgius Passemer cler. olim vicarius hujus Ecclesiæ, qui sepelit. fuit primo die Maii, anno D'ni 1695. Etiam Georgius filius ejus qui sepelit. fuit 24° die Augusti, anno D'ni 1695. Etiam Johannes frater ejus qui sepelit. fuit decimo die Aprilis, anno D'ni 1701. Etiam Susannah, vidua et relict. prædicti Georgii Passemer, cler. unica filia Alexandri Cheeke, Ar' Procuratoris Generalis Serenissimo Carolo Primo necnon Carolo Secundo, nuper regibus Angliæ, &c. infra Curiam suam Admiralitatis, quæ sepelit. fuit 28 die Mar. 1722°."

In the church on flat stones:

5. "Here lie y^e^ bodies of Elizabeth, y^e^ wife of John Mallack, of Axminster, marchant, and Richard their sonne, which Elizabeth died y^e^ 7th daye of Maye, an'o Dom' 1644; and y^e^ said Richard died y^e^ 19th daye of y^e^ same month."

6. "Here lieth the body of Anne, the daughter of William Pring, and of Joane his wife, who was buried the 2d day of February, 1704, ætatis sue the 6th."
7. "William Pring, 1708."
8. "Underneath this stone lieth the body of John Husey, who departed this life July the 25th, 1804, aged 74 years; and his family on his right for a century and half past. Good people, do not remove this stone."

In the churchyard:

9. "Francis Pring, serge-maker, departed this life Nov. 12, 1801, aged 82."
10. "Mary Pring, departed this life April 27, 1799, aged 55. Also John Pring, of Chinstone Hill, her husband; died June 3, 1805, aged 74."

On an enclosed tomb:

11. "Sacred to the memory of Mary Anne Burges,* youngest daughter of George Burges, esq., and of the Honourable Anne Wichnoure Somerville, his wife. She was born at Edinburgh on the 6th day of Decr. 1763, and died at Ashfield in this parish, on the 10th day of August, 1813."
12. "Sacred to the memory of William Pring, who departed this life July the 7th, 1807, aged 72 years. Also four of his children: Anne died June 24th, 1765. William died June 9th, 1781. Jabez died May the 31st, 1782. Thomas Udy died June the 15th, 1785."

There are four bells, on one of which is:

"T. Pen. 1627, Iohn Smyth, Malachie Aishforde. Wardens.
I sound to bed—the sick repent,
In hope of life—when breath is spent.
T. P. anno Domini 1670. I.M. I.C. C.W."

There are ten windows in the church, one window in the chancel, one glass window, and six other ditto in the tower. There were in former days four windows in the chancel, but three of them are now walled up. There are four doors, and the principal entrance is on the south side.

Awliscombe is a parish in the hundred of Hemlock, Devon, and Archdeaconry of Exeter. two miles from Honiton, and 161 from London. It stands near the river Otter, on the Collumpton Road, and contains 86 houses, and 429 inhabitants. It is a vicarage, value £12 10s. 10d. in the patronage of the Duke of Bedford.

"This was the birthplace of Thomas Charde, the last Abbot of Ford Abbey, who founded the hospital at Honyton (as fame hath). In the reign of King Henry the Third, Roger Gifford held lands in this parish, and the Abbot of Dunkeswell had a manor here, whom Matthew Gifford, the son of Roger, impleaded for hindering him to present to that church. By the marriage of Gifford's daughter Isabel to Mandevill, these lands came to Sir John de Stanton."—Risdon's "Survey of Devon," p. 40.

The Rev. Richard Vyvyan Willesford, chaplain in ordinary to the Prince Regent, is the present vicar.

Yours, etc., JOHN PRING.

* Sister of the present Sir James Bland Burges, Bart., LL.D., of Beauport, Sussex, and Knight Marshal of his Majesty's Household.

Axminster.

[1748, *p.* 214.]

In digging a vault very lately in the parish church of Axminster in the county of Devon, were found several bones of a human body, very ponderous, which, when opened, appeared to be full of lead, particularly the thigh bone. This, so surprising a thing, has puzzled the most curious in those parts. You are, therefore, desired to give this a place in your next magazine, in order to have the sentiments of your learned readers hereon. Yours, etc., J. J.

[1792, *Part II.*, *p.* 881.]

The church herewith sent you (See Plate I.) is situated at Axminster, in Devonshire, 150 miles from London; which town takes one part of its name from the river Axe, and the other from its church or minster, which was erected by King Athelstan for seven priests to pray for the departed souls of some persons buried here, among which are said to be two dukes and a bishop, with other persons of distinction, who were slain in his army when he defeated the Danes at a bloody battle in the neighbouring field, which to this day is called King's field, and their monuments are yet remaining in the church. The number of priests were afterwards changed from seven to two, for whom a portion of ground was allotted, known by the name of Priest aller. This church is a vicarage, with two daughter-churches belonging thereto at Kilmington and Membury, value £500 per annum, now in the gift of one of the prebendaries of York. Yours, etc., T. P.

[1821, *Part II.*, *p.* 2.]

Some part of Axminster Church was built in the fourteenth century; the west end and tower are of more recent date. There is a very fine specimen of Norman architecture in a door at the east end, and a window in the chancel contains something of Norman, probably at the decline. The altar window is very large, and the glass has lately been stained to very great perfection. There are three doors to this church, north, east, and west. The north appears to have been built in the seventeenth century. The west, which is the principal entrance, and has a very insignificant appearance, was probably built at the same time as the whole of the west end. The tower is particularly low, and contains three but very indifferent bells. The battlements are very ancient. The church is 70 feet long and 35 broad at the widest part. The pulpit is very ancient carved work. The aisles are composed of four plain arches of Norman, which support a slanting roof; the roof of the chancel is flat, and the parapet very high which surrounds it. There have been many recent improvements in this church, viz., the organ and gallery, the pews and seats for charity children; the pulpit is seated at the west

end and in the middle of the church. There are a variety of monuments. FRANCISCUS.

[1802, *Part I., p.* 418.]

I have sent an inscription from Axminster Church, designed to commemorate the memory of Bernard Prince, father of the laborious author of "The Worthies of Devon."

"In memoriam dilectissimi patris Bernardi Prince, gen^{si}, Nuper de Abby, et Mariæ Crocker, uxoris ejus 1mæ, de Lyneham, oriundæ; Et Janæ Drake, uxoris ejus 2dæ, ex largo stemmate natæ; hoc monumentum pietatis ergo Joh'es Prince, A.M. olim Vicarius de Totness, nunc de Berry Pomroy, d^{ti} Bernardi et Mariæ filius, mœrens posuit, 1709."

ADAM HENJEYS.

Barnstaple.

[1826, *Part I., pp.* 17, 18.]

In May, 1819, some workmen employed in forming a tan-yard on the site of the Priory called St. Magdalen in Barnstaple, laid open the foundations of many extensive walls, thick and formed of very solid masonry; the mortar cementing the stones being harder even than the stones themselves. They were covered by immense heaps of stones, slates, and rubbish, apparently thrown over them at the demolition of the buildings. Amongst the rubbish were fragments of columns, ribs of groins, paving tiles glazed with a flower de luce on them, and some stones with crosses. Two stones were very perfect, and retained, in high preservation, the arms of which I send you an exact copy.

The whole of these foundations and rubbish had been covered for ages by a fine green sward, and now being only partly uncovered, and the rubbish again thrown back, as suited the convenience of the workmen, it was not possible to form a correct idea either of the extent or form of these buildings.

Two skeletons were found, one was very perfect, and a man's. Near this skeleton lay a small bell, such as is tinkled in the Catholic Churches during the celebration of mass; it was of bell metal, and not in the slightest degree corroded, the clapper, being of iron, was destroyed by rust Several coins were found, and some, as I heard, of silver; but of the latter I could not obtain a sight.

A souterrain was laid open, but whether it was an extended passage, or merely the cloaca, it neither suited the purse nor inclination of the tanner to ascertain. There is a tradition that there once existed a subterranean communication under the river Yeo, from this place, to a religious establishment at Bull Hill, near Pilton Church, where the pope's indulgences were sold. I believe, however, there are few places where similar traditions do not exist. The Nuns and Friars were believed to have secured to themselves the means of frequent and secret meetings.

There is also a tradition that a stone coffin had been found here, containing the body of a man in complete armour. A clergyman informs me he had seen it mentioned in some printed book, but does not recollect the author's name. W.

We consider the arms on the Barnstaple stone to be those of Thomas, Duke of Clarence, second son of King Henry IV., by Mary one of the two daughters and coheiresses of Humphry de Bohun, Earl of Hereford, Essex and Northampton. We cannot, however, account for their being found at Barnstaple, or for the omission of the label over the royal arms, as borne by him, and we believe still to be seen on his plate in St. George's Chapel. The crescent seems to have been used instead, as a difference; but it is unusual to find the Duke's arms with that distinction.

The second coat is Bohun Earl of Hereford: and the fourth, Bohun Earl of Northampton: both were united in the above Humphry. The third coat appears to be Stafford; but we do not at present see how it was introduced into the escutcheon. The Duke of Clarence was slain at the Battle of Bangy, 1422, without issue; and was buried at Canterbury. Ed.

[1800, *Part II.*, *p.* 949.]

In the Churchyard of Barnstaple, Devon. . . .

"To the memory of their fellow-soldier, Robert*———, who died March 18th, 1762, aged 19. This stone was erected by the voluntary contributions of the private men of the Kingston company of the first battalion of the Surrey militia." [Verses omitted.]

On the west side of Barnstaple Church. . . .

"John Hopkins, esq. late a major on the Bombay establishment, in the service of the Hon. East India Company, died Oct. 28th, 1799, aged 62 years." [Verses omitted.]

Bideford.

[1755, *pp.* 445-448.]

Bideford was anciently written "By-the-Ford," there having been a ford just above the bridge, on a spot where a house is still standing, called Ford House.

It is situated on the sides of two hills, between which a fine river runs through it. Over this river is a bridge, and many errors have been propagated concerning both.

It has been said that the arches of the bridge are so wide and lofty, that vessels of 50 tons may sail through them; but though ships of much less burthen cannot sail through, yet ships of much greater may go through without masts. It has also been said that the water runs quite out of the river at ebb, and that carts not being permitted to come on the bridge, take this opportunity to pass over on the sands; but this is wholly false, for at the lowest water there

* The grave-stone is here broken and defaced.

is a channel in the middle sufficient to float pleasure boats; and not only carts, but waggons of three tons weight are permitted to cross the bridge, upon paying an acknowledgment to the bridge warden. Some authors have asserted that though the foundation of the bridge is firm yet it will shake at the lightest tread of a horse; but this is also a mistake, for the foundation is immovable; the arch, indeed, not being covered with a sufficient weight, is so elastic that it yields and springs up again under the rapid motion of a coach.

The boats used on the river for hire are passage boats, ballast boats and lighters; in the passage boat a passenger is carried from Bideford to Appledore, three miles, for a penny, and the hire of a lighter that will carry 10 tons, for a whole tide, is 5s.

The town in general is well built, particularly a new street fronting the quay, which is Bridge Land, and inhabited by people of fortune. The quay itself is in the body of the town, and so commodious that ships of 200 tons may lay their side to it, and unload without the use of a lighter. It is a place of considerable trade, but the herring fishery has failed for some years, and so has the manufacturing rock salt into what was called salt upon salt, by first dissolving it in sea water and then boiling it again. Great quantities of potter's ware are made and exported to Wales, Ireland and Bristol.

The merchants of Bideford lost almost all their vessels in the late French war, but by buying and building, have again made up their number near 100, most of which now lie by, as the hands that should have navigated them were swept away by the press, and others cannot be procured.

It sends no member to Parliament.

It is governed by a mayor, aldermen, recorder, capital burgesses, town clerk, sergeants, etc., and has a particular court, in which actions of debt and upon the case may be brought for any sum.

The Granvilles have been lords of this place ever since the Conquest till very lately, and in the eleventh year of Queen Anne, it gave the title of baron to George late Lord Landsdown.

There is a market three days in a week, on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays; the Tuesday's and Saturday's markets are most considerable, Tuesday's being well served with corn and other provisions. Thursday's is called the little market, and is held in a different part of the town.

The price of provisions is very variable. Wheat is from 3s. 6d. to 10s. per bushel; the common price is from 4s. to 5s. Beef is from 2½d. to 4d. per pound, and butter from 3½d. to 9d.

The number of houses is about 500, and, allowing five persons to each house, the number of inhabitants will be about 2,500.

The church—though it is large, and has two aisles and two galleries, can yet but just contain the number of persons that attend divine worship. Great part of it has been lately new built; the whole has been repaired and beautified, and new seats have been

made. It was first furnished with an organ about twenty-five years ago, and the organist's salary is £20 per annum. It has also a good ring of six bells, and the tower being near the river, the tone is rendered more soft and musical. The motto on the treble is "Peace and good neighbourhood," and that on the tenor, "I to the church the living call, and to the grave I summon all."

The church is in the manor of Biddeford, the diocese of Exeter, the hundred of Shebeare, and the deanery of Hartland. The present rector is the Rev. Mr. John Whitfield, M.A. His predecessors were the Rev. Mr. Nichols, Dr. Herbert Bedford, and — Ogilby, who was chaplain in ordinary to King Charles II.

The living is worth £200 per annum, and the present patron is the Right Hon. the Lord Gower.

There is an epitaph in the western wall of the churchyard that fixes a point of chronology, and shows that the plague raged with great violence at Bideford in 1646. The persons buried under it are three children of Henry Ravening, surgeon, who were the first that the disease carried off, and were supposed to contract it by playing on some bags of wool that were just landed on the quay.

There are two dissenting meeting houses, one of which is pretty large, the number of dissenters being computed to be nearly one-fourth of the whole.

The parish register began in 1561, when there were no dissenters. The number of christenings for the first twenty years was 473, for the last twenty years 1,151; so that the whole number of christenings for the last twenty years must be 1,151 and one-fourth more, being nearly 1,535. Marriages for the first twenty years were 114, for the last 20 years 395. The burials in the first twenty years were 255, and the last 1,597.

There is a grammar school endowed with about £20 per annum.

About two miles down the river is a place called Hubblestone, from a large stone of the same name, of which they relate the following story: In the reign of King Alfred, one Hubba, a Dane, having desolated South Wales with fire and sword, came to Appledore with thirty-three sail of ships, and, landing his troops, besieged the castle of Kenwith, but being opposed with great courage by the Devonshire men, he was slain and buried under this stone, to which they gave his name, and called it Hubba's Stone. In the "Magna Britannia" this castle is said to be at that time called Hennaborough, but I believe it to be the place now called Henny Castle, situated on a hill about a mile north-west of Bideford.

As to remarkable or illustrious persons, there is in the church, near the communion-table, the monument of a warrior; he lies extended, is completely armed, and has a dog by him. On an arch that is turned over him is an inscription, which I read thus:

"Hic jacet Thomas Grauntvild, miles patronus istius ecclesiæ, obiit xviii. in die mensis Martii, A.D. 1513, cujus animæ propitietur Deus. Amen."

This gentleman was of the illustrious family of Granville, but nothing is known of him more than the inscription tells.

There is also a monument to Mr. John Strange, an eminent merchant. The life of this gentleman was rendered remarkable by many incidents, that seemed as if he was brought into the world and preserved by providence for a particular purpose, which he lived to accomplish, notwithstanding several accidents that would otherwise have been fatal, and then died when it might reasonably have been expected that he would have had a longer life. When he was very young he fell from a very high cliff without receiving any hurt, and he was afterwards struck on the forehead by an arrow, which just raised the skin and glanced away, without doing him any farther injury. When the plague broke out in Bideford the mayor deserted his trust, and fled the place. This was the crisis for which Mr. Strange seems to have been born. He was chosen mayor instead of the fugitive, and during the whole time that the pestilence raged he went into the infected houses, to see that the sick were properly attended, to prevent the houses of the dead from being plundered, and to see that the bodies were properly interred. After he had performed this good work, and there was none sick of the disease in the place, he sickened of it, and being the last that it destroyed, his death crowned his labours, and conferred his reward.

As to the natural history. Bideford is bounded to the north by Northam, to the north-east by Westley, to the south-east by Ware Giffard, to the south by Littleham, and to the west by Abbotsham. It is remarkable that though Northam is two miles north of Bideford, yet part of the parish is a mile south of it. . . .

The soil is hilly and rocky, with blackish mould, yellowish clay, fens, marsh, wood, arable, pasture and heath. The chief product is wheat, barley, peas and beans. There are many good quarries of hard, durable stone for building in the rocky part, and in the clay part very good earth for bricks. There is also a culm pit, which was worked for fuel a few years ago, when coal, which is usually sold for one shilling per bushel, double Winchester, was very dear.

The principal manure is lime, ashes, dung and sea sand, that in colour resembles unburnt umber, but is lighter and more yellow; a sea weed called oar-weed, is also sometimes used, but principally for gardens. The ashes are made by spading the turf from the surface of the ground and then burning it in heaps.

The springs are generally found at the depth of about 16 feet, and the water is very sweet and soft, except near the quay, and there it is a little brackish.

The air is in general healthy, though the place is frequently covered with thick fogs from the sea. . . .

It is high water at the bridge at new and full moon about six o'clock, but sometimes the wind considerably alters the time. In

stormy weather it has sometimes fallen about a foot after high water, and then risen again as high as before. If the wind blows strong at south-west, a high spring tide seldom fails to overflow the quay, and rise so high under the arches of the bridge that the smallest boat cannot pass. A common spring tide, without the concurrence of a south-west wind, generally lays all the marshes under water.

As to wages, day labourers have per diem 1s., house-carpenters and masons 1s. 6d., ship carpenters on old work 2s., on new 1s. 6d., and the master 2s. 6d.

In the bay, latitude 51° 14″ N. lies the island of Lundy, which is five miles long and two broad, but so encompassed with rocks that it is accessible only in one part, and the avenue there is so narrow that a few men might defend the pass against a multitude. If to this natural fortification a small fort had been added, the petty French privateers who lurked there in Queen Anne's war, to our great loss, might have been driven away. They took so many of our vessels, for which they lay in wait in this place, that they called it Golden Bay. But though no fort is yet built, yet the Bristol privateers so effectually protected the trade in this place during the last war that not a single vessel was taken. Wrecks are very frequent on the rocks about the bay, and a proposal was lately made to erect a light-house on Hartland Point by a gentleman remarkable for public spirit, who offered, if this proposal was complied with, to erect a mathematical school in Bideford, and endow it with £50 per annum. No lighthouse is yet erected.

The island is four leagues distant from the nearest land, but it abounds with fine springs of fresh water. The soil in the southern part is good, but the northern part is rocky. There is, among others, one craggy, pyramidal rock, so remarkable for the number of rats burrowing about it that it is called Rat Island. The whole island abounds with rabbits and wild fowl. It is said that no venomous creature will live upon it. It is inhabited by only one family, who sell liquors to such fishermen as put on shore there. It is said to be in the hundred of Banton, and to be the property of Lord Gower.

On Northern Burroughs, which is distant from Bideford about four miles below the bridge, there is a beach of pebbles, about three miles long, of very considerable breadth and depth, so that although they have been long used as ballast, the number is not perceptibly diminished. These stones are from 6 to 18 inches long, curiously variegated with veins of different colours, and sufficiently hard to take a fine polish; on the outside of them grows a great quantity of the Lichen marinus, or sea liverwort, which is much esteemed by the neighbouring inhabitants as a wholesome and pleasant food, being gently opening and an anti-scorbutic. It is frequently packed up in earthen pots and sent to London.

Of the places above bridge none are worth notice except Ware

Giffard, which is also distant from Bideford about four miles; at this place the water of the river first becomes fresh, and sometimes rises so suddenly that the inhabitants on the quay are not only confined to their houses, but driven to the upper rooms. The fish above bridge are trout, gravelling salmon, flukes, flounders, eels, bass and millet; and below rock, bass, cod, oysters, cockles and mussels, though of the shell fish mussels only are plenty, the oysters being generally brought from Tenby in Wales, and sold at about 1s. per six score. Mackerel are also brought in their season by the Comb boats, and herrings from Clovelly in such plenty as to be sometimes sold at the rate of seven for a penny.

In the parish of Fremington are great quantities of reddish potter's clay, which is brought and manufactured at Bideford, whence the ware is sent to different places by sea. And near Ware Giffard there is plenty of fine pipe-maker's clay, many ship-loads of which are annually exported to Bristol, Liverpool, Chester and other places.

[This communication is again printed 1789, pp. 973-4, 1069-70.]

[1755, *p.* 564.]

Adjoining to Bideford on the north is Raleigh, probably so called after some of the illustrious family of Sir Walter Raleigh. Just above the bridge is a little ridge of gravel of a peculiar quality, without which the potters could not make their ware. There are many other ridges of gravel within the bar, but this only is proper for their use, and for some particular purposes in masonry. This ridge is often washed away by the freshes, but always gathers again, exactly in the same place, as soon as they abate. About a mile above the bridge on the west is Lancras, said to be the birthplace of General George Monk, afterwards Duke of Albemarle. At a little more than three miles above the bridge, in the parish of Monkleigh, is Annery, said to be the birthplace of Walter Stapledon, Bishop of Exeter, and lord high treasurer of England.

About four miles from Bideford, in the parish of Alwington, is a place called Yeo, now the seat of —— Bruton, Esq., a very ancient and handsome building. It is said to derive its name from a pleasant stream of water, which in French is called Eau, whence by corruption Yeau, and at last Yeo. At this place are the remains of a chapel, in which was a dormitory for the dead.

[1799, *Part II., pp.* 556, 557.]

Dr. Watkins, in his "History of Bideford," Devon,* published in 1792, writes thus:

"We find the name of this town written various ways in records and books, as Bedeford, Byddyford, Bedyford, Bydeford, Bytheford, Biddeford, but more properly Bideford, which is compounded of the

* Dr. W. modestly calls his work an "Essay towards a History of Bideford."

Saxon Bi situated, and ford, a shallow place in a river that may easily be passed over. . . ."

Notwithstanding the observations of the historian of Bideford, and the invariable practice of the best informed inhabitants of the town and its environs, the error and its consequent confusion appear to be increasing. Mr. Crutwell, who ought to have inquired for and examined the history of Bideford, spells it in his gazetteer Biddeford. And such is the obstinacy of the person employed in the General Post-office to distribute the post marking instruments, that though the postmaster of the town has expostulated with him on the subject, and pointed out the right method of spelling the name, the distributor continues to send instruments which make the post-mark Biddeford.

From another topographical error of the aforesaid distributor it might be supposed that he was originally a Devonshire clown, and still retains his provincial dialect. Chulmleigh is by him spelled *Chim*ley, according to the pronunciation of the lowest ranks in Devon, who pronounce *u* in many words as *i*—brish for brush, rin for run, sich for such, etc.

As one great design of your publication is to correct literary as well as moral errors, I am encouraged to hope that you will favour this with a speedy insertion. A. B. C.

Bradninch.

[1825, *Part II., pp.* 499-502.]

(*Extract from the Diary of an Antiquarian Tour in Devon during the Autumn of* 1823.)

Bradninch is in the hundred of Hayridge, and in the deanery of Plymtree; lies nine miles from Exeter, and two and a half from Collumpton, which is the post town, that from Bradninch being only a cross post.

At the time of taking the Domesday survey, William Chievre or Capra held the manor of Bradenesse or Braines in demesne. It was afterwards held as an honour, or barony, with the Earldom of Cornwall, by Reginald, natural son of King Henry I., by King John, and his son Richard. It was eventually made, and still continues to be, part of the Duchy.

King John, A.D. 1208, granted to the burgesses of Bradninch, or Braneis, all the liberties of free customs which the city of Exeter enjoyed. King James incorporated the borough; and King James II. granted a new charter in 1685.

This borough sent members to one Parliament of Edward II.

In the Harleian MSS., No. 2410, is this notice: "Bradninch, once Braines. Brithwold before the Conquest, and William Chiem in the Conqueor's time, was seized of lands here. This is a Barony, and was always a p'cel of the Dukedom of Cornwall, the Dukes whereof

were once named Barons of Braines. This town consisteth of three parts—the Fee, the Manor, and the Borough."

We visited Mr. Bowden, a gentleman who has devoted much time and attention to the history and antiquities of Bradninch. It is much to be wished he would employ his pen on the subject. He has the custody of the deeds and records of the borough, many of which he had the politeness to submit to us. Among others an award on the subject of tithes between Peter Sainthill, Esq., the impropriator and the inhabitants, A.D. 1556; a court roll of Bradninch about the same time, signed by the above Mr. S.; and a MS collection of various subjects connected with the borough and its court rolls, by John Hooker, steward of the manor in the reign of Queen Elizabeth.

At the vicar's (the Rev. Thomas Tanner) we saw the church registers, which commence A.D. 1558, and come down uninterruptedly; but from the similarity of the early entries I am of opinion they have been copied from more ancient originals. These are of vellum. Possibly the first were only paper, and may have suffered.

Among the baptisms I noticed twins bearing both the same name, John and John, the sons of John and Mary —— his wife. What is equally singular, they died on the same day, at eighteen months old.

The Church of Bradninch* is dedicated to St. Denys. It was formerly a rectory, and valued at £53. It is now impropriate to the Dean and Chapter of Windsor, and the tithes have been held under them by the Sainthill family (now represented by George Pearce, Esq.) since 1547. The impropriator is also patron of the living.

The church has a fine tower. The interior appears to have been built at different times. There is a magnificent screen across it, erected A.D. 1528; and at the last visitation of the Heralds' College for Devonshire, 1620, by the deputies of Camden, Clarenceux, the Royal Arms, those of Prince Charles and the Bishop of Exeter, and the Acland, Sainthill, and other neighbouring persons of consequence, were painted on the front of this screen.

* There were formerly four Chapels of Ease in this parish attached to the Church, viz., one at Trinity, near which is a well called to this day the Holy Well; another at Heal; a third at Colebrook; and the fourth at Nordon. They were separated from the Mother Church at the time of the Dissolution. The Church is dedicated to St. Denys; was built in the reign of King Henry III. and enlarged in the reign of King James I. The advowson was originally held by the Earls of Cornwall of the King in capite, but by what service is not stated. In the reign of King Edward I. it was valued at 30 marks; and in the reign of King Henry VIII. at £35 per annum. When the Statute was passed in the reign of King Henry VIII. for the Dissolution of the Monasteries, the Rectory, etc., was attached to the college of Ottery St. Mary, but becoming the property of the Crown, King Edward VI. by letters patent of October 7, 1547, granted the same to the Dean and Canons of Windsor, and their successors in perpetuity.—*Bowden, MSS.*

There are few monuments worth attention. On the floor of the chancel is a stone, which has probably been removed from near the Communion table. On it, in old English characters, is this inscription:

"In memoriam Petri Sainthill, armigeri; Elizabethæ uxoris ejus, et Mariæ filiæ. Vivant in cœlo in gaudio et gloriâ."

By the church registers it appears that Mrs. Sainthill was buried October 14, 1613, and her husband July 31, 1618.

On the north wall of the chancel is affixed a very neat and tasteful monument. It consists of two elliptical tablets of black marble set in a carved frame of white Italian, surmounted by the Sainthill arms and crest. The right tablet is inscribed:

"To the memory of Peter Sainthill, esq. well knowne in this place for his piety, charity, and justice, sonne of Peter Sainthill, esq. and grandsonne of Peter Sainthill, esq. all inhabitants of this ancient Burrough (the 2 last lying in a vault under the Communion-table in this chancel), who having served King Charles I. in honourable charges, both civil and military, according to the obligation of his oath; to reserve himself for more successful service to his King and country, in the yeare 1646 withdrew into Italy to his brother Robert Sainthill, esq. then agent with the greate Duke of Tuscany from King Charles I. where having spent the remainder of his life in the exercise of virtue and devotion, and lamenting the miseries a civil warre had brought upon his country, he resigned his spirit to God who gave it, in the yeare of Grace, 1648, and the 54th yeare of his age."

On the left tablet:

"Samuel Sainthill, his sonne and heir, both of his fidelity to his Prince and estate, though impaired and lessened by his father's loyalty, dedicates this marble, and desires the memory of the reader for the piety of the act, which he caused to be done in the yeare of Grace 1679.

Cætera memorent Posteri.

The above-mentioned Samuel Sainthill, esq. who erected this monument, lies also buried under the Communion-table of this Church. He departed this life the 14th of November, 1708, in the 83d yeare of his age."

With Samuel the direct male line of the elder branch of the Sainthills became extinct. His cousin, John Sainthill, of Topsham, being the nearest male relative, was expected to have been his heir, and it is said was so intended, but having given some offence the old squire made a more natural choice by leaving his estates to his nephew, Edward Yarde, Esq., of Tresbeare, son of his sister Dorothea, who took the name of Sainthill by Act of Parliament, and being a bachelor of 71, married, and died 1732, in the 95th year of his age, leaving one son, Edward, whose daughter and heiress, Elizabeth, marrying Admiral Pearse, her son, George Pearse, Esq., is now the representative of the Sainthills of Bradninch and Yardes of Tresbeare.

Visited Bradninch House, built by the first Peter Sainthill, A.D. 1547. It was originally in form a double I + I, but is now reduced to a single one, and has been much altered. One wing, including the

dining parlour, the library, staircase and King Charles's bedroom (so called from that sovereign having slept in it, and his spirit being supposed still to haunt it), remain exactly in their original state, and are extremely curious. The dining parlour, called Job's room, is 36 feet by 24, and 13 in height. It is panelled, with pilasters, supporting a cornice, all of oak, and most elaborately worked with all sorts of devices, fruits, flowers, arms, musical instruments, angels, lions, and so forth. The ceiling is covered with rich bold tracery. The fire-place is spacious, and the chimney-piece, which goes up to the ceiling, is also oak, and divided into three compartments representing in alto-relievo, Abraham's sacrifice, Job's trials, and Jacob wrestling with the angel. The compartments are divided by two warriors and Peace and Plenty, the whole resting on brackets supported by Ceres and Bacchus. In the corner of the room is a circular state entrance with a second and lower roof supported by Corinthian pillars and ornamented with lions, angels, etc., also oak extremely curious. The library is similar, and the mantelpiece is decorated with Prudence, Temperance, Justice, and Fortitude. In the window are Queen Elizabeth's and the Sainthill arms in stained glass, dated 1562. The staircase is broad, and the banisters are ornamented by heads grinning most indescribably, and surmounted with lions and griffins rampant holding shields in their paws; and at the top of the staircase is a unicorn of modern workmanship, probably placed there on Charles I.'s visit, whose bedroom is in the same style with the others. The king is said to have cut his initials on the door, but we were unable to discover them. Possibly the door has been changed. Mr. Pearse has a considerable share of antiquarian spirit and research, and proposes restoring the house on the original plan. In the library we were favoured with the sight of many curious MSS.—*inter alia*, a pedigree of the Yardes from the time of Henry III. to Charles II.—and the grant of the present Sainthill arms, which is on vellum, beautifully emblazoned, amid the tracery of which, in Roman characters, are the words, "Tout fin fait;" and beneath, in old English, as follows:

"To all true Christen people these present letters herenge or seeing, Christofer Barker, esquier, als' Garter Principal King at Armes of Englesshemen, sendithe due and humble recomendacion and greteng. Equitie willethe, and reason ordeineth, that men vertuous and of noble courage be by theire merytes and good renoume rewarded, and had in perpetuall memory for theire good name, and to be in all places of honner and wourshipp, amonges other noble parsonnes accepted and reputed by shewinge of certein ensignes and tokens of vertue, honner, and gentelness, to the entente that by theire insample other shuld the more perseuer-auntly enforce themselfes to use theire tyme in honnorable wourkes and vertuous dedes, whereby they might allso purchase and gette the renoume of auncient noblesse in theire ligne and posteritee: And, therefore, I the foresaide Garter Principall King of Armes as abouesaide, which not alonely by the comen vulgar fame, but allso by myn owen knowlege, and by the reporte of diuers auncient gentelmen and other credable parsonnes, am truly informed and aduer-

tised, that Peter Sainthill of Deuonshire hathe longe contynued in vertue, and in all his actes and other his demeanings hathe discretely and wourshippfully guyded and gouerned hym selfe, so that he hathe desurued and ys well wourthy from henseforthe to be in all places of honner and wourshipp amonges other noble parsonnes accepted and reputed by shewinge ensignes and tokens as aforerehersed, and for the remembraunce and consideration of the same, his vertue, habbillitee, and gentelness, and also by vertue, power, and authoritee to myn office of Principall King of Armes annexed and attributed by the King our Souverain Lord, I have deuised, ordeined, and assigned unto and for the syde Peter Seinthill, the armes and crest, w^t^ thappurten'nces hereafter followenge, that ys to wytt: Golde, a fesse engrayled Azure, betw'ne III lyopartes heads Goules, upon the fesse III besants, on eu'y besante a flowerdelice of y^e^ fesse cheffe gusset, of the 2nd semed flowerdelice of y^e^ furste. Upon his crest II amphibanys heddes rased in countrant Vert, lang'ed Goules, a crounall about theire neekes Golde, sette upon a wrethe Golde and Azure, mantells Goules, lyned Silver, bottonet Golde, as more plainely apperethe depicted in this margent. To have and to holde unto the sayde Peter Seinthill and his posteritee, w^t^ theire due difference therein, to be reusted to his honner for euermore. In witness whereof I have subscribed this presents w^t^ myn owen hande, and thereunto have sett the Seale of myn office, and also the Seale of myn armes, geven at London the xviii^th^ day of July, in the yere of our Lorde God MVCXLVI. and of the reigne of our Souuerain lorde King Henry the VIII^th^, by the Grace of God, King of Englande, Fraunce, and Irelande, Defender of the Faythe, and in earthe of the Churche of Englande and Irelande, supreme hedde, the xxviii^th^ yere. C. BAL's Gartier."

There can be no doubt that the grant was obtained by Mr. Sainthill, in accordance with the fashion at the Court of Henry VIII. of deriving everything from the present monarch; and in the preceding year Mr. S. had received from Henry a grant of lands in Devonshire and Dorsetshire (Jones's "Index to Records"). The Sainthills were a Norman family, and their armorial bearings appear to have gradually been increased (as it strikes me) in the following order:

Armorial bearings of Sainthill, of Devon:—Or, a fesse between three fleurs-de-lis azure, on a chief of the second an orle of demi fleurs-de-lis of the first.—*Edmonson.*

Or, on a fesse between three fleurs-de-lis azure, three besants, on a chief of the second eight fleurs-de-lis of the first.—*A seal at Bradninch.*

Or, on a fesse between three fleurs-de-lis azure as many besants, on a chief gules, fretty of the first, three fleurs-de-lis of the last.—*Edmonson.*

Or, on a fesse between three fleurs-de-lis blue, three besants. A pierced pile in chief.—*Harleian MSS.*, 1091, *and Heralds' College MSS.*

Or, on a chevron engrailed azure, between three leopards' heads gules, as many besants, each charged with a fleur-de-lis of the second; in chief, on a pile azure, three fleurs-de-lis of the first. Crest, out of a ducal coronet or, two wiverns' heads indorsed vert.—*Edmonson.*

The grant of 1546 merely changes the chevron of the above coat to the old bearing of a fesse, and places the "amphibanys" en contrant, from indorsed. The indefinite expression in the grant, of the

"cheffe gusset (pile), semed fleur-de-lis," explained at once to me the variation so frequently met in MSS. of this part of the Sainthill arms. As borne, they are "three demi fleurs-de-lis attached to the sides;" but the Harleian MS., 1080, has three fleurs-de-lis; in Harleian, 1399, they are four demi and two whole fleurs-de-lis. This uncertainty naturally followed from the licence of "semée."

[1825, *Part II.*, *pp.* 580-584.]

Among the MSS. I met a sketch of the character of the cavalier Peter Sainthill, and a satire upon him written by the Roundhead or Republican party. The former is ably written; the latter is very curious as a specimen of party spirit during the Civil Wars, and its admissions (those of bitter enemies) place the Cavalier's character in a high point of view.

"Peter Sainthill was born 1593, and was educated at the Free Grammar School at Tiverton, and one of the first scholars on that foundation: he was an accomplished gentleman, and a good scholar; of a courteous and affable disposition; charitable, and of such unaffected simplicity of manners, that he secured the esteem of all, and gained universal confidence by his integrity, both in public and private life. He was a pattern of loyalty and attachment to his King, and being possessed of large property, he lent liberally to supply the Royal necessities during the arduous contest between Charles and the Parliament; and when the King headed his army in the West, and the troops were marching from Honiton to Tiverton in the year 1644, he entertained his Sovereign * at Bradninch House a day and a night, and the following morning attended him on his route to Exeter. He was Recorder † of this Borough, and Deputy Steward of this Manor; and in the years 1640 and 1641 was elected Member of Parliament (together with Sir Peter Balle, his kinsman) for the Borough of Tiverton, which he continued to represent till the memorable year 1646, when to avoid the persecution of his enemies, and save his life, he sought an asylum in Italy.

"On entering Parliament, Mr. Sainthill inclined to the popular side, but as soon as an ordinance was passed for raising an army against the Crown, and abolishing Episcopacy, he threw all his interest in the support of the King, and was one of the 118 Members

* "The day after the King marched from Plymouth, himself attended only by his own troop, and the principal officers of the Court went to Exeter, appointing the army, by slow marches, to follow, and to be quartered at Tiverton and other towns adjacent, where they arrived on the 21st Sept., 1644."—*Clarendon*, vol. ii., p. 539.

"Bradninch was the headquarters of King Charles's army on the 27th July, 1644. A part of the King's army was quartered there again on the 17th Sept., 1644. It was the headquarters of Sir Thos. Fairfax on the 16th Oct., 1645."—*Lysons's Devon.*

† "In this parish (Bradninch) is St. Hill seated, descended from the Norman line, Steward of the Stannaries, and one of the Masters in Chancery."—*Risdon*, tempore Charles the First.

that sat in the Parliament of Oxford, convened by Charles in January, 1643, and in conjunction with the Lords and other Commoners, he signed the letter to the Earl of Essex on the 27th of that month; and, in consequence, the Parliament, in their propositions for peace to Charles, November 23rd, 1644, require that Peter Sainthill, esq. (among others) be removed from Court, and his Majesty's Councils, be rendered incapable of ever holding office, and that one full third part, upon full value of his estates, be employed for the payment of the public debts. Mr. Sainthill also commanded the Trained Bands raised under a Commission from the King at Bradninch, and was one of the Commissioners * for managing the King's affairs in the West" (he is mentioned by Clarendon, vol. ii., p. 639, as one of the Commissioners who met the Prince of Wales at Bridgewater, April 23rd, 1645, to consult on the best steps to be taken for the King's service).

Let us now turn to the Republican satire [omitted; it is printed on pp. 581-583].

By the articles under which Exeter surrendered to Fairfax, Mr. Sainthill became entitled to compound for his estates, which were sequestrated by Parliament. A part only, however, was recovered by his son Samuel, in July, 1653, after a long suit before "The Commissioners for Compounding with the Delinquents," by paying a heavy composition; but all the estates in fee, in Devonshire, Dorsetshire, and Yorkshire, were confiscated. We were favoured with a perusal of all the pleadings, etc., before "The Honorable the Commissioners for Compounding with Delinquents," and the receipts, one of which I copy. They are printed, with blanks for the name and money (what is written is printed in italics).

"Received by us, Richard Waring and Michael Herring, Treasurers of the moneys to be paid into Goldsmiths' Hall, *of Samuel St. Hill of Bradninch*, in the county *of Devon, Gent.* the summe of *Three Hundred Seventy fower Pounds, seventeen Shillings, Six pence, in p'te of Seven hundred forty nine Pounds, fifteen Shillings* £374 17*s.* 6*d.* Imposed on him by the Parliament of England, as a fine for his Delinquency to the Common-wealth. We say received this 24*th* day of *September*, 1651, *in parte* *Ri Waringe.*

I have taken notice of this acquittance

September y^e 24, 1651. *Ri Sherwyn, audite.*

Take Mr. John Lawrence of Colesbury, Parish Justiciary, w^th Mr. St. Hill for security.

M. H.

Security is taken by me, 29° Sept. 1651. *J. Bayley.*"

The hall of Bradninch House is large, and hung with a series of portraits of all the heads of the family, from 1546 to the present time.

* "By the diligence and activity of the Commissioners appointed in Devonshire, his Majesty was, within a few days, supplied with two thousand pounds in money, which was presently distributed among the horse; and 3,000 suits of clothes, with good proportions of shoes and stockings, which were likewise delivered to the foot."—*Clarendon*, vol. ii., p. 540.

There is also a valuable painting of the visit of the Queen of Sheba to Solomon, apparently by Rubens. At the Visitation for Devon, A.D. 1620, besides the Cavalier, there were three* other brothers at Bradninch. Their cousin, the Rev. Wm. Sainthill, vicar of Hennock, had nine * sons, and there were also the Sainthills of Rockbeare,* Mamhead,† and Asburton.† These families, we might expect by this, would have colonized the intervening country; but, strange to say, one branch only of the Hennock family, which settled at Topsham, has survived. All the others have become extinct in the male line; and the representative of the Topsham family, Captain Sainthill, R.N.,‡ having removed to Cork in Ireland, it is not supposed the name is at present to be met with in Devonshire. The manor of Sainthill (anciently Swenthull), from which the family derive their name, is in the parish of Kentisbeare.‡ Richard Sainthill (father of the first Peter) resided there in the reign of Henry VII., and the first Peter, in Harleian MSS. No. 1457, is termed "St. Hill of Sainthill and Bradnynche." Sir Walter Swenthull, who represented Devon in the Parliaments of Edward II. and III. resided at Honiton, and his brother Reginald at Wadheys, which was conveyed to him in the time of Edward I. by Henry De Boteler (Harleian MSS. 2410).

[1801, *Part II., pp.* 618, 619.]

Bradninch was anciently a barony belonging to the Dukes of Cornwall, and still makes a part of that Duchy. In Domesday Book I find it among the lands of William Chieur, and then called Bradenese. In a charter of Reginald, Earl of Cornwall, a natural son of Henry I., it is styled Braneis, and in the returns of burgesses to Parliament in the reign of Edward II., Bradneysham, but, more latterly, Bradnidge, or Bradnynche. . . .

Yours, etc., ADAM HENJEYS.

Brixham.

[1830, *Part II., pp.* 113-116.]

The fishing town of Brixham is seated on the western shore of Torbay, four miles east of Dartmouth. It is divided into two parts, the "town" and the "quay." This latter is situated at the foot of a range of hills surrounding a small bay; the streets are narrow, and the greater part of the houses old. Those on the west side of the principal street are modern, but inconvenient, owing to their being built at the base of a lofty limestone rock, formerly a quarry, while their gardens are placed on the summit, and consequently long flights of steps are necessary to reach them: in one flight I counted seventy-four steps. The haven is defended from the violence of the weather by a substantial stone pier, and is capable of sheltering about two hundred sail of fishing vessels.

* Harleian MSS. 1080. † Registry of Wills, Exeter. ‡ Lysons's Devon.

A chapel of ease has been erected within these few years, to the great convenience of the inhabitants; the exterior is not remarkable for its architectural beauty, but the interior is tastefully fitted up in the modern Gothic style, and ornamented with a handsome altar-piece: it affords accommodation to nearly fifteen hundred persons. Here are also two meeting houses, one belonging to the Wesleyan Methodists, the other to the Calvinists; the former is rather an elegant building. At the water-side is a small market-house. The *town*, composed chiefly of detached cottages, extends more than a mile up a hill to the west; about midway through it, on the south side, is the parish church (dedicated to the blessed Virgin), a spacious embattled structure, built in the style of the latter part of the fourteenth, or beginning of the fifteenth century, with red sandy stone, now rough-casted. It consists of a nave, chancel, north and south aisles, with a transept in each; at the west end is a plain embattled tower, a hundred feet high; on each side is a small circular turret, through which access is gained to the roof of the church. Facing the south is a large porch, having a groined ceiling; in the centre are three figures, but the whitewasher has been so industrious, that it is almost an impossibility to recognise for whom they are meant. The interior, notwithstanding its present neglected state, and the numerous "churchwardenizations" it has undergone, still retains traces of its original elegance. The aisles are lofty, and separated by obtuse arches; the columns appear to have been painted in imitation of red marble, as portions are visible through the whitewash. A large old gallery stands in the choir, while a lesser, erected about three years since, occupies a part of the south aisle: each transept is also furnished with one, in that in the south side is a wooden tablet, bearing a long list of donations to the poor, in red and black letters, placed there in 1692. The same year the church was repaired and ornamented with Scripture sentences, "when Mr. Robt. Lake and Geo. Gillard were churchwardens." The opposite gallery is devoted entirely to the use of the Buller family. At the head of the stairs is a handsome old-fashioned monument:

"In memory of Edward Yarde, eldest son of Edward Yarde, esq of Churston Court, who died at Eton School, April y^e^ 12th, in the year of our Lord 1710, to the extreme affliction of his father and mother." [Verses omitted.]

Within the precincts of the pew is the following inscription on a slab of statuary marble:

"M. S. Francisci Buller, Baronetti, per plusquam septemdecem annos Banci Regis, deinde per sex annos Banci Communis Justiciarii; viri memorabilis, qui in causis discendis acumine et diligentiâ, in indagando jure industriâ, et in interpretando solertiâ, nemini cessit. Natus in parochiâ Crediensis 28° die Martii 1746, obiit Londinii 4° die Junii, 1800, et sepultus est in cœmeterio divi Andrææ prope Hospitium Grayense, juxta reliquias Edwardi Buller, filii primogeniti." [Verses omitted.]

The following is painted in black letter on a small wooden tablet, which hangs loosely on one of the pillars in the nave:

"John Crout of Brixham in this county of Deuon, y'e,* who died the 20 of July, 1641, gaue ten shillinges yearely for euer to this par. of Brixham for ye relefe of ye poore, to be payd ovt of on tenement caled Blockhowse in this parrish of Brixham, to be distrybuted euery neweres day, by the help of ye chvrch wardens and ouerseers of the poore."

The sounding-board of the pulpit is surmounted by the figure of an angel gaudily painted and gilded, blowing a trumpet. On each side the nave, immediately beneath the cornice, are two others holding shields, charged with armorial bearings; on one are the arms of Courtney, on another those of Yarde. The font is exceedingly beautiful, but the symmetry of its ancient tracery and foliage is now eclipsed by modern ornaments, bestowed on it by the white-wash brush. The Scripture sentences referred to above are destroyed. At the eastern end of the south aisle are several monuments to members of the Fownes family, and in the corresponding end of the north aisle are three old ones of the Uptons; on the first, a large dark coloured marble one in the fashionable form of the reign of Charles II., supported by Grecian columns, and having their arms on the top, are the following inscriptions:

"In memory of John Vpton of Lvpton, Esq. who piovsly and righteovsly served God and his Covntry, in his private and public station while a Ivstice of Peace, and Bvrgesse for Dartmovth in three Parliaments, at his proper cost and charge.

"This monument was erected by his most disconsolate relict Ursula, daughter of Sir John Lytcott of Moulsey in the county of Surrey, Kt. with whom she lived 22 yeers of true conjugal affection, and by whom she had three sons and one daughter; the first dyed young, the others, educated in the feer of the Lord, and kept from the vices of youth, gave great hopes of being eminently serviceable, were early transplanted, dyeing in the true Christian faith before their father, who departed this life at Salusbury, Sept. 17th, and was here interred the 20th, anno ætatis 49, Domini 1687."

"Here also lyes ye aboue said Ursula, who had been first married to George Clerke of London, merchant, by whom she had 8 children. Ob. 16 Dec. 1709, anno æt. 79.

"Arthur, their eldest son, was born at Dublin in Ireland, Feb. 14th, and buryed there in March in 1666. Arthur, their second son, born at Lupton, Jan. 6th, 1667, died at Kingsbridge Nov. 28th, was buried here, 1680. John, their third son, born at Lupton May 17th, 1668, died and was interred in Wadham Coll. Oxon. Dec. 1686. Vrsula, their onely daughter, born at Lupton, Jan. 13th, 1671, died in London Aug. 21st, and was interred here in the same grave with her father, 1687."

The second, which is similar but smaller, is in the north-east angle between the two windows, and contains a pompous Latin inscription to the memory of Antony, third son of John and Dorothea Upton, who went to Spain in his youth, where he was for thirty years an eminent merchant. He died in July 1669, aged 48.

* Yeoman.

In the opposite angle is the third, a small one. The inscription is on brass in Roman capitals:

"To the preciovs memory of John Vpton, esq. a saint excellent on earth, and now gloriovs in heauen, who was borne on earth Aprill 7, 1590, and was translated to heaven Sept. 11, 1641."

Above this is a hand holding a crown proceeding from a cloud, and underneath it is written:

"A crowne of righteovsness."

Adjoining is a handsome monument to the memory of Mary, daughter of John Southcot, Esq., of Dartmouth, who died the 4th of August, 1752. in the tenth year of her age. Above the inscription, an angel holding a crown leans on a medallion portrait of the young lady.

On each side the entrance of the chancel is an ancient tomb under a small arch, which once afforded a view of the high altar to those in the eastern extremity of the aisles. That on the south now forms a doorway, over it are the letters P. G., and the date 1710; the other is perfect; round the margin is an inscription in black letter, but illegible.

The communion table is covered by a curiously embroidered violet-coloured velvet cloth, evidently part of the ancient furniture of the high altar; the border is adorned with figures of saints. Before the table on the floor is a stone on which is the following:

"This pavement was done in the year 1721. Nicho. Browne, Geo. Pretor, churchwardens."

The altar-piece is divided into several compartments, in which are roughly painted the Crucifixion, David, and Moses and Aaron. Over the decalogue are the arms of Fownes; above them is the following inscription:

"Hunc lucum sacrum sumptibus suis ligno surrexit et ornavit Johannes Fownes, senior, de Nethuray, armiger, anno Dom. 1730."

Behind the altar is the vestry. An old register, rebound, and bearing marks of fire,* is preserved in the parish chest. Inside the cover is the following memorandum:

"In acknowledgement of the polite attentions of the Rev. James Eyre to Sir Isaac Heard, Garter Principal King at Arms, this Register of Brixham has been carefully repaired and bound, in order to preserve a valuable record from further decay, and for the benefit of the present and succeeding generations. 29th January, 1807."

The registers commence as follows: Marriages, Jan. 16, 1556. Burials, Jan. 1, 1560. Baptisms, March 10, 1587.

The belfry is on the ground floor, and was formerly separated from the body of the church by a noble pointed arch, now closed up with lath and plaster.

* The inhabitants have a tradition that the town was burnt and the church greatly injured by the French.

The churchyard is large, but contains nothing of interest.

Brixham derives its name from one of its early proprietors, Brithric. In the reign of St. Edward the Confessor one Ulfe or Ulphus was the owner of the manor, and at the Conquest it was granted to a Norman Baron named Ralph. Afterwards it became the property of the powerful family of Vaultort, Barons of Harberton. At the death of Lord Roger de Vaultort, without issue, in the reign of Henry I. it was divided between the sons of his two sisters, Beatrix, married to the Lord Corbet, and Avise, married to Pomery of Berry Pomery. After passing through various hands, it has been sold off in small portions, the possessors of which are denominated the "Quay Lords."

Lupton in this parish was the birthplace of Nicholas Upton, a learned lawyer, and one of the earliest writers on heraldry.

Torbay, the Totonesium Littus of the Romans, has been the theatre of many great events in English history. Here it was, as we are told, Vespasian landed, when he invaded Britain in the reign of Claudius, A.D. 49. But the most celebrated is the landing of William, Prince of Orange, afterwards William III. at Brixham, on Nov. 5, 1688. On his accession to the throne, he created his Admiral Arthur Herbert Baron Torbay, and Earl of Torrington; but the titles became extinct at the death of the earl.

Mr. Dunstanville, a merchant, who made a tour through the South Hams about forty years ago, relates the following anecdote of William's landing, as told him by an aged native of Brixham, who was a child when this great event happened:

As it was low water, and the pier not being then in existence, the Prince was brought on shore on the shoulders of a sailor; but before he put foot on the landing-place (which was covered with spectators), he exclaimed with a loud voice, "Welcome or not?" He was immediately answered with the shouts of the multitude, and cries of "Welcome, Welcome!"

During the late war, this bay was one of the stations of the Channel fleet.

The population of Brixham is computed at six thousand.

J. CHATTAWAY.

Brixton.

[1828, *Part I., p.* 171.]

A quantity of ancient family plate has been found in sinking the floor of a potato cave in the grounds of Thomas Splatt, Esq., of Brixton, Devon. The plate has been exhibited at the Heralds' College to identify the arms, which are very perfect in all the pieces (thirty in number), and prove to be those of Sir Christopher Harris, an ancestor of the Harris family of Radford, quartered with those of his wives, of whom he had three. This gentleman, according

to Prince's "Worthies of Devon," lived at Radford, which has been the seat of this family uninterruptedly for nearly 400 years, and he represented Plymouth in Parliament in the 26th of Elizabeth. The inquest in behalf of the Crown has been suspended by orders from the Treasury, and Mr. Splatt has handsomely ceded his claim to the property as owner of the land. The plate is richly chased in the old style, gilded at the edges. It was, no doubt, buried nearly 200 years since, during the disturbed period of the civil war, Major-general Harris, great-nephew of Sir Christopher Harris above alluded to, having had a command in the royal army at the siege of Plymouth.

Buckfast.

[1792, *Part II., pp.* 891, 892.]

The splendid, picturesque, but neglected, ruins of Buckfast Abbey are two miles from Ashburton, on the road towards Plymouth, beautifully situated on the river Dart. Having dined, and the afternoon being remarkably serene, we strolled to Dart Bridge, turning up through a valuable slate quarry, which leads to the outer gate of this venerable pile. This gate is in very good preservation, and the walls now remaining are a part of a porter's lodge on a very large scale. Proceeding farther on, we came to the farmhouse belonging to the abbey. Being inhabited, it has that comfortable appearance which farmhouses belonging to abbeys and priories generally have if kept in repair. The farmer's wife, who usually attends strangers, desired us to walk into the pound-house, and she would show what she called the "biggest pound-stone in the county." This is a single moor-stone 9 feet in diameter, 18 inches under the ground, and 18 inches above; has been used, time immemorial, to grind apples for cider, and, from its massy size, must have been placed there previous to the erection of the pound-house. Accompanied by our guide, we strolled round the ruins of this truly grand pile of monastic antiquity with that veneration which the remembrance that monasteries must ever inspire those who recollect that buildings of this description, in the days of our ancestors, were the only receptacles and preservers of learning and piety, that the poor always found a sure asylum against famine and want. But, to proceed, we then crossed the orchard, and viewed a very splendid ruin of what seems to have been a watch-tower from its height—a peculiar form, being nearly of an octagon shape, covered with ivy dropping in its richest manner. Between it and the remains of another building is a low arch, which appears to have been a passage leading to an interior part of the abbey. The remainder of the abbey consists of the outer walls in detached pieces, and, towards the north-east, the vast heaps of large piles of ruined walls, tumbled in a very grand style on each other, as if shattered by an earthquake, have a

very fine effect. The pleasing appearance of the distant hills, the richness of the soil, the setting sun, which shone through the remains of this once splendid priory, with the serpentine appearance of the river Dart, which meanders close to the orchard of the abbey, form a charming landscape.

Buckfast, Buckfastre, or Buckfastleigh Abbey is romantically situated on the north side of the river Dart, about two miles from Ashburton, and is said to have been founded and endowed by Richard Barrzan, and confirmed to Ethelward, son to W. Pomeroy (temp. Henry II.), for white monks of the order of Cistercians, who dedicated it to the blessed Virgin Mary. William Slade appears on record to have been a very learned monk of this abbey, and flourished in the reign of Richard II. The last abbot was Gabriel Dunne, who, with ten monks, acknowledging the king's supremacy, February 25, 1538, in the reign of Henry VIII., surrendered it into his hands in 1553. There remained £6 13s. 4d. in fees, and £46 6s. 8d. in annuities, besides the following pensions, viz., G. Dunne, late abbot, £120; Matthew Paston, John Watts, Richard Taylor, William Aveny, Rich. Splate, £5 6s. 8d.; and Thomas Gylls, £5; all of them late monks. It was valued at the Dissolution at £464 11s. 2d. ob. q.; according to Dugdale, at £468 11s. 2d. After the Dissolution, the king granted the manor to the Dennises and Labels; from them, by a marriage of the daughter of the latter family, to — Fownes, Esq., of Stapleton, Dorset, who possessed it till 1756, when the manor was again sold by him to Sir Thomas Clarke, knt., Master of the Rolls, for £12,300, and by him given to Thomas Parker, Earl of Macclesfield. The manor of Buckfast-dean, with the site of the abbey, was sold to the Doyleys, who have disposed of it in parts and parcels. The remains of the abbey, with the abbey farm, now belongs to — Bradford, Esq., of Totnes. The estate of Ingleborne, in this part of the county of Devon, once belonged to the abbey of Buckfastleigh; but, at the Dissolution, John Wotton bought it of King Henry VIII., and it is in the possession of his descendants at this time.

The manor of Brent, a few miles from this place, also belonged to Buckfastleigh Abbey. After the surrender, it was given to Sir W. Petre, knt., in the descendants of whose family it still remains. . . .

ANTIQUARIUS SECUNDUS.

Cadhay.

[1862, *Part I., pp.* 64-67.]

The manor or barton of Cadhay is owned by Sir Thomas Hare, Bart. The present kitchen was formerly the hall, and was open to the roof; but I believe the alteration, by which a bedroom was obtained over the kitchen, was made long before Capt. Collin became tenant, though he has now been there many years. The

original roof still remains, and access to it is, or was not many years since, attainable.

The following notes may be acceptable :

By Deed S. D. Edward de Cadehey grants to John de Cadeheye a piece of land callen Narwecombe, lying between the lands of the Lord of Cadeheye and the land of the said John ; also half an acre of land and half a perch lying between the lands of the Lord of Otery St. Mary, and the demesne of the Lord of Cadehey. And because he had not his own proper seal, he procured the seal of John Salvyn to be appended to the writing.

Witnesses—Jord' de Kyntistone, Thomas Cotone, Henry de Esse, William de Wodeford, Richard Engelond, John Salvyn, and others.

11 *Edw. II.* Deed poll whereby John de Cadeheye grants to Robert his son and his heirs, all his lands and a tenement in Cadheye, with all appurtenances, etc., reserving the services due to the capital lord. For which grant said Robert paid forty marcs sterling.

Witnesses—John le Poyer, William de Esse, Richard de Kynatstone, William Poyer, John Gone, Geofry Hoseburn de Cadeheye, John Chepe, and others.

13 *Edw. II.* Deed of Release from John de Cadehaye, son and heir of John de Cadehaye, to Robert de Cadehaye his brother, of all his right in certain lands and tenements in Cadeheye, which might descend to him on the death of John his father.

Witnesses—Thomas de Cadehaye, John Poyer, Richard de Kyncistone, John Gone, Roger de la More, clerk, and others.

Another deed to the same effect, and of corresponding date, is witnessed by the same parties, Thomas, the first witness, being therein styled *Dominus* de Cadehaye, and Roger de la More clerk and *the writer of the deed.*

15 *Edw. II.* Indenture, whereby Robert de Cadehaye grants to Richard his brother all his lands with their appurtenances in Cadehaye, and all his pastures, etc., and live stock (*averia*), excepting the new garden which John his father had in exchange of Richard Chepe; also excepting all the land which John his father had in frank-marriage with Joan, daughter of the said Richard Chepe.

Witnesses—John Poyer, Richard de Knyztestone, Roger Taunteser, John Gone, Thomas de la Thorne, and others.

11 *Edw. III.* Indenture of agreement between Walter de Reyner on the one part, and Richard de Cadehaye on the other, whereby it is agreed that said Walter shall lawfully inclose a piece of land called the Gore, lying between the moor of Cadehaye and the garden of the Lord of Cadehaye, and similarly that said Richard shall lawfully inclose a piece of land between the land *de la picte* on the north, and his close on the south.

Witnesses—John le Poyer, John de Kynaiston,* John Gone,

* The variation in the orthography of this name is great ; in this instance it may be *Kyntlistone*, the *t* and *l* being so conjoined as to look like *a*.

Thomas atte Thorne, Thomas le Gome, Geoffry atte Pitte, William de Esse, and others.

44 *Edw. III.* Deed whereby Geoffry Cadehey conveys to *Magister* Robert Bowe, Henry Halle, and John Colcumbe, all his estate which he had in all the lands and tenements, rents and services at Cadehey, and which he had of the grant of Ralph Vianudre in exchange for land at le Denne.

Witnesses—Thomas Bittelisgate, John Pestor, John atte Thorne, Henry, Roger atte Pitte, and others.

9 *Hen. V.* Conveyance from Beatrix Cadehay, to William Frye, of Fynetone, John Dove,* parson of the church there, and Thomas Dorborgh, of all her lands and tenements with the appurtenances in Cadehay, within the manor of Otery St. Mary.

Witnesses—Thomas Hurtescote, Henry Whityng, John Laurence, John Forde, John Trende, and others.

10 *Hen. VI.* Conveyance † from John Dove, parson of the church of Fynetone, and Thomas Dorborgh, to Beatrix de Cadehay, of the lands and tenements with the appurtenances in Cadehay, within the manor of Otery St. Mary, which said lands, etc., they had together with William Frye, deceased, of the gift and feoffment of the said Beatrix. To have and to hold the said premises to Beatrix for her life, and after her decease to remain to John Cadehay, son of the said Beatrix, his heirs and assigns for ever.

Witnesses—John Forde, Thomas Foghill, Robert Chase, Roger Clode, John Catpole, and others.

18 *Hen. VIII.* Indenture between Richard Haydon, of Wodebury, Esq., on the one part, and Elyn Grenefeld, widow, late wife of Robert Grenefeld, son and heir of Hugh Grenefeld and Joan his wife, of the other part. Being articles of agreement on the marriage to be had between John Haydon, second son of the said Richard, and Joan Grenefeld, daughter and heir of said Robert Grenefeld and the said Elyn. By which deed said Elyn settled all the lands, etc., which would come to her on the death of Harry Wytynge, her father, one of whose daughters and heirs she was, on the said John and Joan and their heirs; a life interest being reserved to herself. And the said Elyn releases all her right and title in the lands, etc., called Cadehaye. For which release the said Richard grants to the said Elyn an annuity of xl. shillings, and furthermore the said Richard grants to the said Elyn an annual rent of five marcs, going out of all such lands and tenements as he hath in the county of Devon, according to the tenor of a certain deed made by the said Richard to the said Elyn.

I find no other deeds till the date A.D. 1660; but it would appear from the monument of John Haydon, in the church of Ottery St. Mary, that Hugh Grenefeld married the heiress of

* Or *Done.* † Re-conveyance of the estate, William Frye being now dead.

Cadhay; from that and the above deed is deduced the following pedigree:

Hugh Grenefeld, or, as the name appears to have been afterwards written, Grenvile = Johanna de Cadehay.

Robert Grenfeld, son and heir, ob. ante 18 Hen. VIII. = Elyn, daughter and co-heiress of Harry Whytyng.

Richard Haydon of Wodebury, Esq. = . . .

John Haydon, of Wodebury and of Cadhay, second son, ob. 1587, s.p. = Joan Grenfeld, daughter and heiress, ob. Dec. 19, 1592, s.p.

Who immediately succeeded John Haydon and his wife Joan I have here no means of knowing, but some of your Devonshire genealogists may be able to fill up the gap. The estate remained in the Haydons for some years.

The following pedigree is deduced from the Haydon deeds, and an Act of Parliament passed in the 8th of Anne, for vesting the estate of Gideon Haydon in trustees for payment of debts and settling the overplus to the uses of his marriage settlement:

Gideon Haydon, ob. ante 12 Chas. II. = Margaret of Cadhay, and a widow, Jan. 28, 12 Chas. II.

George Haydon. Nicholas Haydon. Gideon Haydon, son and heir. = Eleanor . . .

Gideon Haydon, eldest son and heir apparent; 12 Chas. II. the date of his marriage settlement. = Katherine, daughter of John Stoaks, Gent., of London.

Thomas Haydon. Robert Haydon. Gideon Haydon, of Cadhay. Marriage settlement dated Jan. 12, 1693, will dated March 13, 1706. = Alice, daughter of John Fitch, of Henbury, Dorsetshire, a widow 9 Anne, and sole executrix of her husband's will. Margaret Haydon

Thomas Haydon, clerk, of Peranuthno, Cornwall.

Gideon Haydon, of Cadhay, son and heir, 11 years of age in 9 Anne. Marriage settlement dated Oct. 30, 1723. = Anne, dau. of . . . widow of . . . Hanbury.

In 1736 the estate of Cadhay was sold to John Brown, Esq., who in the following year sold it to William Peere Williams, of Gray's Inn, Barrister. In 1771 it was in the possession of Sir Booth Williams, Bart., who, by virtue of an Act of Parliament for that purpose, sold it to Elizabeth, the widow of William Peere Williams, his uncle, second son of the barrister, W. P. Williams.

Elizabeth, daughter and coheiress of W. P. Williams and Elizabeth Seignoret his wife, married Thomas, Lord Graves, who possessed Cadhay. It eventually came to his daughter, Anne Elizabeth, who married Sir Thomas Hare, Bart., whose son, the present Sir Thomas Hare, Bart., is now in possession.

G. H. D.

Clyst St. George.

[1863, *Part I., pp.* 28-34.]

The river which orignates in the parish of Plymtree being dull and sluggish, and in some places almost stagnant in its current, is considered by etymologists to derive its name from an old British word which not only signifies *water*, but also some quality or circumstance connected with it; and hence the name of Clyst.

Gliding in its course until it falls into the Exe, below Topsham, it gives name to several parishes and ancient gentlemen's seats, of which Clyst St. George is the last. . . .

This parish was at the time of the Norman Survey, 1086, called Clistwic. It is mentioned in Domesday among the numerous possessions of Ralph de Pomerai, who was one of the followers of the Conqueror, and was rewarded for his fidelity by the gift of fifty-eight manors in Devon.

In a deed without date, but from the name of the grantee and that of one of the witnesses of the reign of Henry II., Henry de la Pomerai, as Lord of Clistwic, granted certain marsh lands to William Sukepie, who at the same time granted to Henry de la Pomerai a cask of wine, and to his son Henry an ivory bow.

By an ancient deed of the early part of Henry the Third's reign, given *in extenso* in Dr. Oliver's account of this parish, it appears that Hillary Blunt, Mayor of Exeter in 1227 and 1233, granted certain lands in "Clystwick," which grant Geoffrey de Pomerai, as chief lord, confirmed. It is next mentioned in a Coram Rege Roll of 25 Henry III. (1240), by which it appears that Geoffrey de la Pomerai held certain lands in "Clistwyk," of Henry, Earl of Cornwall, as lord of the manor of Bradenes, or Bradninch, by payment of 20s. a year, or one goss hawk (a curious record of the value of this bird in those days).

This manor at a later date, then called "Clisse St. George," passed to Henry Champernoun, who left Cornwall and resided in the parish —probably by the marriage of Richard Champernoun with Joan, natural daughter of Richard, Earl of Cornwall, King of the Romans; and the manor was held by this family until Elizabeth, the only daughter and heiress of Sir William Champernoun, carried it by marriage to William Poglass, who left Margaret his only daughter and heiress, who was married to Judge Hearle* (*circ.* 1310), whose son

* The arms of Hearle are A fess gules between three shoverels (ducks).

dying (*circ.* 1336) without issue, conveyed his large inheritance to William Lord Bonville, of Shute. From Bonville it came to Henry Lord Grey, Duke of Suffolk, on whose attainder (1554) it escheated to the crown, who sold it to Serjeant John Prideaux; and Sir Peter Prideaux, his grandson, conveyed the same by sale to Peter Trosse. The manor is traced from thence to William Fortescue, of Fallopit, Thomas Dupre Porcher (1814), John Cresswell, Esq. (1821), whose nephew, John Walrond Walrond, of Bradfield, is the present possessor.

Of the church the earliest record remaining is an imperfect inscription on the bevel slope of a tombstone of very early form, on which may be traced the name "Henry le," or "de," relating either to one of the Pomerays or to Henry de Campo Ernulphi (Champernoun).

Among the residents in this parish was Sokespitch, or Sukepie, of Marsh, before alluded to, and the family of Lee,* of Winslade, but of their ancient mansion no traces remain.

On the floor of the nave are encaustic tiles, on which are dates and memorials of several clergymen and other persons; a mode of preserving a record of those that are gone that was until lately quite unique, but it has now been more generally adopted. Memorial tiles may thus be made effective in ornamenting the surface of the walls of a church without obtruding like the ordinary mural tablets. But surely it is a most legitimate act of societies like our own to protest against the mutilation of the memorials of the dead; and knowing how very valuable such have often proved, every opportunity should be taken to place on record any which happen to have been destroyed in churches within their knowledge. It is a maxim long known, that "no person has a right to remove or deface any memorial laid or placed in memory of the dead." Overlaying with tiles old memorial stones is perhaps not destroying them nor defacing them, but it is certainly effacing them. By a recent Act (15 Vic. c. 97) there is a provision "that if any person shall wilfully destroy or damage any monument or other memorial of the dead in any church or churchyard, he shall be liable to be imprisoned six months with hard labour," without exculpating the offender from "action at law and damages for the injury committed."

The earliest mention of the advowson of the church which I have found is in the *Valor Ecclesiasticus* of Pope Nicholas (1291), wherein "Eccl'ia de Clistwik" is valued at £2. We state on authority that

* George Chudleigh, of Ashton, married Mary, the daughter of Richard Lee, of Winslade. "She was a good and clever woman, authoress of many essays and poems" (1703). The celebrated Duchess of Kingston, who was tried for bigamy by the Lords in 1776, was a grand-daughter of Sir George and Lady Chudleigh. In 1766 she had married the Earl of Bristol, but previously (1744) Evelyn, Duke of Kingston.

the first occurrence of the name of the church, Clyst St. George, is in the register of Bishop Grandisson, 1342.

Bishop Bronescomb's register, fol. 7, tells us that the church belonged to the Abbey de Valle Sanctæ Mariæ in Normandy; and it appears by a fine 52 Henry III. (1268), between Henry de la Pomeraye, complainant, and Gilbert, Prior of Merton, in Surrey, deforciant, that the Abbot of Valle held of the said Henry de la Pomeraye the advowsons not only of Clystewyk, but of Aynscumb, St. Lawrence in Exon, and De Bery and the manor of Kaningtayn in Christow parish, all in the county of Devon. From 1267 (Dr. Oliver says from May 17, 1322, but it is an acknowledged error), the Prior and Convent of Merton exercised the right of patronage of Clyst St. George until the suppression of the priory, April 26, 1537, on the yearly payment by the rector of 6s. 8d., a right exercised by demise from the Abbot of Valle to the Prior of Merton at the period above mentioned.

In 1534-5, when the ecclesiastical valuation of England was made, Nicholas Smale was rector, and the tithes were leased to Thomas Bonyfaunt, as a yearly tenant, for £12 18s. 8d., subject to the payment of 6s. 8d. to the prior of Merton Abbey. This quit rent of 6s. 8d. was retained until sold off with many other similar imposts; and September 27, 24 Charles II. (1672), it was sold by Francis Lord Hawley to John Mann, Esq. Prior to 1800 it came into the possession of the late Sir Robert Palk, who sold it to the late Mr. Robert Abraham, of Ashburton, to whose executors it is paid by the present rector.

The church, prior to its reconstruction, consisted of a chancel 17 feet by 12, a decorated east window of three lights, divided by massive simply chamfered mullions with two sharp-pointed cusps in each containing remains of ancient glass, and a plain square-headed piscina with credence. On either side of the priest's door was a two-light square-headed domestic and very debased window. The chancel arch and screen had been removed about 1790, when the church was renovated by the destruction of the old oak sittings—a very early buttress on the outside marks the line of the chancel arch; the low circular ceiling was smoothly plastered, and the whole neatly whitewashed, whilst the sacrarium was floored with deal, and enclosed with a mahogany rail and turned banisters.

The nave measured 34 feet by 17 feet 6 inches, and was lighted on the south side by three-light Perpendicular windows, from one of which, the easternmost, the cusps had been chopped off to facilitate the glaziers' work with square panes.

The north side of the aisle is separated from the nave by an arcade, consisting of four obtusely pointed four-centred arches, fairly moulded, and resting on whitewashed columns. The easternmost arch was lower and more debased than the others—the flat soffit of which,

being panelled, led to the supposition that it was originally a canopy over an altar-tomb; but I differ from this idea, and consider the mode of construction necessary, and called for by reason of this aisle being extended 10 feet beyond the chancel arch, the roof of the chancel being much lower.

At the west end is a tower of three stages, with an octagonal stair-turret on the south side. It has a western doorway, and over it a three-light perpendicular window. There is a feature in this window which, not being common in the county, it may be well to notice. The heads of each light are equilaterally formed with cusps, whereas the heads of the four bell-chamber windows above are of the ogee form. They are well formed and deeply moulded. The drip-mouldings have straight terminations. The corbels which terminate the hood-mouldings of the large west window of the tower, though very roughly carved, clearly represent, one, a female with the horned head-dress, and reticulated jewelled crespine enclosing the hair, and the other, a Saracen, with turban and moustache. These show the date of the tower to be *circa* 1460 to 1480, and they are so far valuable that they furnish an interesting historical inquiry, viz., What had we to do with the Saracens at that date? The north aisle was built after the tower.

An octagonal font with quatrefoil panels round the bowl, which is spacious and lined with lead, is probably in age coeval with the nave —say, about 1420.

The interior fittings of the church consisted of large square pews, made, as Weever in his "Funeral Monuments" says, "high, and easy for the parishioners to sit or sleep in;" a fashion of no long continuance and worthy of reformation.

The present church has little remains of the old building. Indeed, with the exception of the tower, the old buttress of the chancel-arch on the south side, and about ten feet of the north aisle wall, the whole has been rebuilt from the ground-line of the foundation. The whole work has been done as much as possible on the conservative principle, the pillars, arches, and windows being moulded as they were before. The old roofs (which were of the usual Devonshire cradle or waggon type, and plastered between the principals and purlines) have been replaced by oak rafters, solidly constructed. The chancel walls are solidly built, and the east window is the exact type of the original. The clustered columns of the chancel-arch are constructed with polished serpentine, and white marble members intercepting the larger ones, and the soffit of the arch is inlaid with squares of polished serpentine set diamond fashion, which gives the appearance of a polished marble arch.

The capitals of the pillars are carved. The eastern respond has a Tudor rose and vine foliage; the next represents oak-leaves and acorns, emblems of virtue and majesty; the vine follows, being an

emblem of the Church or Saviour; while the next, an emblem of eternity, is prefigured by ivy and its berries.

The porch is an exact reproduction of the old one, and the western door has been repaired, giving an appearance of equal antiquity with the tower itself. . . .

The altar-rails, or *cancelli*, are of burnished brass, corresponding in design with the decorated period. The nave and aisle encaustic tiles, 12 inches square, laid at intervals, and mixed with others of divers colours, are inscribed with memorial records of persons long since buried beneath, and whose names were almost obliterated from the much-worn tombstones. All the sittings are open and of equal height, the bench-ends being richly carved. On one of these the royal arms are represented. . . .

The font has a lofty open cover with crocket-work, pinnacles, and finial, the whole surmounted by a metal cross. . . .

Within the tower were three ancient bells; and here an interesting question arises why that number is so often met with in most of our parish churches. Where there are more than three it will be found that they have been added since the Reformation. The subject is one which has engaged much of my attention. Whatever the earlier constitution or canon of the church might have been, it has occurred to me that the number was so ordered in accordance with the practice of the early church, that at morning, noon, and evening the angelus bell, as it was called, should peal forth from every steeple and bell-turret in the kingdom, and as the sound floated through the surrounding neighbourhood the monk in his cell, the baron in his hall, the village maiden in her cottage, and the labourer in the field reverently knelt and recited the allotted prayer in remembrance of Christ's incarnation for us. This triple peal throughout the day might have induced a bell of a different note to be sounded *mane*, *meridie*, and *vespere*. Though its origin is forgotten, the bell still rung at those hours in some parishes, serving to call the labourer to and from his work, is in reality a relic of the angelus. . . .

H. T. Ellacombe.

Collumpton.

[1808, *Part II.*, *p.* 1073.]

In the chapel founded and built at the expense of John Lane, an eminent merchant and clothier of Collumpton, co. Devon, I observed several angels, elegantly carved, at the roots of the ogee-branches, holding in fanciful positions the figures exemplified in the annexed drawing (figs. 3, 4, 5, 6). . . . Z. H. F. A. S.

[1800, *Part II.*, *p.* 1131.]

In repairing the church of Collumpton, Devon, last year, the workmen, scraping the mortar off the walls and doors, laid open many paintings both of landscapes, buildings, and figures, all of them sacred subjects, and emblems of the passion, etc., surrounded

with interlaced borders, and explained by scrolls in black letter. . . . If these were of the time of John Lane, who built an aisle or chapel adjoining to the church, 1526, they are of the sixteenth century. Mr. Polwhele (ii. 254, 255) ascribes the nave to the time of Edward I. B.

Dawlish and Oxton House.

[1793, *Part II., p.* 593.]

Dawlish is a bathing village, midway between the Exe and the Teign. Through a pastoral valley a crystal rivulet winds, and, after a short course, pours its tributary stream into the ocean. At its mouth is Dawlish village, surrounded by high hills, and open only to the sea. Here summer lingers and spring pays her earliest visit. The charming plant of Venus here blooms unprotected, and, with the myrtle, a variety of other shrubs that I have been wont to cherish in a greenhouse, I have here and in the neighbourhood seen braving, without shelter, the cold attacks of winter.

The other place that I have been charmed with is one of the sweetest and most domesticated scenes to be imagined. In a sequestered valley, at the eastern fort of Haldown, is seated Oxton House, a handsome edifice, belonging to the Rev. Mr. Swete, and, I think, built by him. The views of this valley, closed on the north and south by rising hills spread over by old oaks, are delightful from the windows of the east front, which, in particular, command a playful stream, well conducted through the bottom, and terminating in a large piece of water. Beyond this is an old arched gateway, apparently monastic, which, peeping from amid the gloom of high rocks and venerable trees, casts its reflection in the water. I have called this *old*, and there is not one in fifty who would not judge it so, though it hath not been erected above two or three years. Over all, a mile or two distant, towers the Belvidere of Lord Courtenay, which is a beautiful object, and most happily placed for this little paradise. From the house there is a variety of walks through the woods, some of which lead to a summer-house on the summit of a hill, encircled by a range of high-branching oaks, through the trunks of which, from the upper windows, I was able to trace the river Exe from its mouth to the cathedral of Exeter, and to discriminate a vast number of towns, villages and seats on its banks. This elegant little house has been lately built by Mr. Swete, and is in the Gothic style of architecture. I got admittance, by means of a nice old woman, who is kept in this Arcadian cottage, to the upper room, than which I was never more pleased with anything. It has a cove ceiling and three bow windows, Gothic, with painted glass ; the chimney-piece elegant, of a peculiar kind of Devonshire marble. There is also a select collection of books, and there is a great number of beautiful

drawings of the country around, on the walls, tinted in water-colours by Mr. S. himself. I took a little sketch of this building, which, as it is of a peculiar construction, your present correspondent at least would be glad to see among your engravings. (See Plate i.)

Over the doorway there is the following inscription, which, though I did not understand, I literally transcribed:

"Sibi et fuis amicis
I: S:
1792.
Hic licet . . . . incertibus horis
Ducere follicitæ jucunda oblivia vitæ."

Hence there is a walk, or drive, for a mile or two on a delicious terrace, commanding the little valley and the house; and another through the wood, which, by a gate, communicates with the pleasure-grounds of Mamhead. INCOGNITA.

Dawlish.

[1794, *Part II., p.* 1106.]

The Rev. Mr. Polwhele, in the second volume of his "Survey of Devon," lately published, has given some account of Cofton Chapel, in the parish of Dawlish; and, presuming that a perspective view of its present ruins would be acceptable to some of your readers, I have taken the liberty of sending you one (Plate III., fig. 3), and also the inscription now visible on Dr. Kendall's monument in a panel against the north wall in the chancel of the said chapel:

"In memoriam viri eximie eruditi GEORGII KENDALL, SStæ theologiæ doctoris, filii Georgii Kendall, de Cofton, armigeri, qui e vita discessit xix. Avg° MDCLXIII. et Juxta hic sepultus jacet. Nec non in memoriam lectissimæ ejus conjugis MARIÆ, filiæ Periam Pole, de Talliton, armigeri, quæ obiit xmo die Aprilis, MDCLXXVI."

In the year 1785, when I first viewed the ruins, the arms of Kendall and Pole under the monument were visible; but at this time they are effaced. Those of Kendall, arg. a chevron sa. between three dolphins naiant; and those of Pole, az. a lion rampant arg. between six lozenges or. F. J.

Down St. Mary.

[1822, *Part II., p.* 209.]

Down St. Mary, distant from Crediton W.N.W. about six miles, is a rectory, once the property of the Ching family, afterwards of the Sturts of Critchley, Dorsetshire, who sold it a few years ago to farmer Tucker, of Down St. Mary. The present rector's name is Rev. T. Freke.

The exterior of the church is in no respect worthy of particular notice; but it contains within its walls a treat for an antiquary. It appears to me not to have undergone much repair since its first formation; but being presented last spring by the rural dean, it is

about to undergo great alterations. To preserve what it once was, I have forwarded—1st, some specimens of ancient tiles, about 5 inches square each (see Plate II.); 2ndly, some of the ends of the seats; and 3rdly, a copy of a curious stone in the south wall.

1st. If I err not, Edward III. first bore the lion and fleur-de-lis, semi, and Henry IV. the swan. Are we to suppose that the church was built about the period of the third Edward? There are not many of the tiles in good preservation; the figures are, generally speaking, worn out; but I have by perseverance preserved eight of them, which I trust will be acceptable to you.

2nd. The ends of the seats are about fifty in number, and very beautiful Each is 2 feet 10 inches long and 1 foot 4 inches wide. I have selected only four (see the plate). They are all various, and the fleur-de-lis is twice introduced. The upper seat in the body of the church was the most remarkable; for, in addition to what the others present, this had a figure on the top of each end, sitting on a cushion, which have submitted to the saw of the carpenter, as the cushion and feet clearly show.

3rd. The curious stone in the south wall remains to be noticed. It is a good deal injured; but the following is as accurate a copy as the original will admit of: [woodcut omitted].

I presume it is intended for St. Anthony, but your readers will be good enough to set me right if I am mistaken. I shall only remark that there are the remains of two most elegant screens. A third was removed some years ago, and appears to have been the largest of the three.

The ceiling was originally of carved oak, but it was much impaired by time, and is now wholly removed. I have preserved one panel, which it is my intention to place in some other part of the church to perpetuate what it once was. R. C. R.

Dunkeswell.

[1791, *Part II.*, *pp.* 1170, 1171.]

Dunkeswell Abbey (Plate II., fig. 1), whose fabric the ruthless hand of time has now laid in scattered fragments, was a monastery, founded in 1201 by a favourite of King Richard I., William Lord Brewer, for monks of the Cistercian Order, as were most (I apprehend) in this kingdom; which order, thus become so powerful in Europe, was founded, in the eleventh century, by St. Robert, a Benedictine. This abbey was a grand-daughter to Waverley Abbey, in Surrey, and, at the suppression, was valued at £294 2s. 9d.; and John Lee, the last abbot, in 1553 was pensioned with £50 per annum. The drawing annexed was taken on the spot, and is exact. It is situated about six miles north-east of Honiton, and, though in the midst of Blackdown, is in a picturesque valley, whose richness confirms the

general observation of the monks choosing spots of the highest fertility for their residence. This valley, terminated by surrounding hills, extends every way about two miles, excepting on the south side, which is open. It is built of flint, and two fine streams of water encompass the scattered remains, which occupy a site of about six acres. The arch, doubtless, was the grand entrance from the west; but is, since this sketch, lately fallen a victim to time. The walls standing on the north side are near 300 yards from east to west, and from north to south about 150 yards.

In the north-east corner, within memory, was a tower standing, and the field adjoining is called Churchyard Mead. Those who live near describe, within recollection, a round building, which I conjecture to have been the chapter-house. The remains of two large fish-ponds are very obvious, and retain the name of Pond-meads.

The parish of Dunkeswell is small. The church is two miles from the abbey, which is a pleasant distance from Wolford Lodge, the seat of Colonel Simcoe, M.P. . . .

J. Feltham.

Exeter.

[1763, *pp.* 396, 397.]

In taking up the old floor of our church, and in removing a large stone (under that which had the monumental inscription) which lay too high for the bed of the new floor, we laid open a very shallow walled grave, in which was a leaden coffin of an ancient form. The cover was partly decayed, and on removing what remained, we found a skeleton pretty entire. On the right side stood a small silver chalice, covered with the paten. A piece of silk, or linen (we could not tell which), was bound round the stem or pillar of the chalice. Among the dust we found a fair, gold ring, with a large, but not very good sapphire; the whole as fresh as if just brought from the jeweller's. On the left side lay the remains of a wooden crosier, which scarce retains enough of its original form to determine what it had been. Tradition (for we have nothing else to depend on, the inscription having been long since effaced) informs us, that the *exuviæ* were those of Thomas de Bitton, Bishop of Exeter, who was buried about the year 1306, in the reign of Edward II. The bones were very respectably covered up again, but the ring and chalice are reserved for the inspection of the curious in the repository of our archives.

Yours, etc., A. B.

[1797, *Part I., p.* 377.]

Herewith you will receive a curious antique tooth and ear-pick of silver (fig. 5). It was found some years since in the bed of the river Exe, on digging for the foundation of the new bridge at Exeter. It sufficiently speaks for itself, therefore needs no farther comment; and a ring (fig. 6), used, as I suppose, antecedent to the art of

enamelling. It is for a mourning-ring, composed of a ring of tortoise-shell thickly plated with silver, with several openings through the same for displaying the tortoiseshell. In its manufacture it is exceeding rude, and the motto withinside, "When this you see, remember me," in the same style. Also, a silver heart (fig. 7), worn, as I suppose, in memory of Charles I. On one side it is ornamented with hieroglyphics; the other with the head of the king as the letters "C. R." inform me. It opens, for the purpose of holding, probably, a relic. . . .

J. LASKEY.

[1796, *Part II., p.* 1078.]

When I was at Exeter, twenty years ago, I was shown, in a chapel at the east end of the south aisle of the cathedral, a skeleton, said to have been that of one Grace Harris, who was hanged for the murder of her bastard child. The right hand, with which she cut its throat, was dried and entire. Whether this skeleton was since removed, and put underground, your Exeter correspondents can best inform you. I recollect no inscription on the skull, nor any date or other circumstances of the story.

VIATOR.

[1797, *Part I., p.* 298.]

Viator (lxvi., p. 1078) may be informed that the skeleton discovered lately in the Exeter Cathedral was a new discovery. The anatomical preparation of Grace Harris, usually shown to strangers there, still remains.

J. LASKEY.

[1834 *Part II., pp.* 40-42.]

In pulling down some old houses in South Street, near the Conduit, and sinking the ground deeper at the back, an elegant pavement adorned with crosses, arabesques, fishes, escutcheons, etc., as the annexed representation, was discovered. It is supposed to have been that of an ancient bath.

The square flat ornamental tiles of which it was composed (for it is now taken up and the tiles in possession of different people at Exeter) are probably of Flemish origin, and imported perhaps about the year 1250, when the bath was repaired afresh by the monks, as it adjoins the ancient buildings of their college near the Conduit. The flue which heated this bath is in the wall to the left, proceeding no doubt originally from a hypocaust stove, or furnace outside; and close to it, directly under the wall, and on a level with the pavement, was found a coin of the lower empire, with the head of Philip the Elder, Radiant, and AVG. The walls are partly of Heavitree red stone, and partly of small red clinkers, or bricks. Roman tesseræ were found in great abundance on the same spot, indicating the ex-

istence of a tessellated or chequered pavement; also fragments of Roman sepulchral urns of black sun-baked clay, intermixed with bones, cinders, and pieces of red pottery and glass, but none in a perfect state. On the interior of a small red terra-cotta vessel from the same spot (unfortunately broken) the inscription REGINI. M. is perfectly legible, and seems to show that a body of Rhetian troops were once quartered at Exeter called Regini Milites, from the ancient city Reginum, in Lower Bavaria, now called Ratisbon, and formerly Regensberg, being at the influx of the Regen into the Danube. . . .

The engraving shows patterns of nine of the tiles of the bath, which are each 5 inches square; that in the upper angle to the left is one of four which formed a centre. The one here annexed makes ten.

These are probably all the patterns, as many plain tiles, glazed over with a green or bronze colour, were alternately used in the bath. Several of each pattern were found. The second tile evidently bears an armorial coat, though unfortunately it is reversed in the engraving. The third tile represents the cross of the Knights Templars, or perhaps more probably the cross patée of de Fortibus, Earl of Albemarle. The fourth appears to be the royal coat of Scotland; unless, instead of a tressure, the lion was intended to be surrounded with the bordure bezantée of the Earls of Cornwall. The sixth is evidently the spread eagle of Richard, Earl of Cornwall, King of the Romans. The eighth represents a fish within the holy symbol of the *vesica piscis*. The tenth appears to be an armorial coat of chevronels, probably Clare, and allusive to Margaret de Clare, wife of Edmund, Earl of Cornwall.

[1834, *Part II., p.* 300.]

The Dean and Chapter of Exeter, in new paving and beautifying their ancient cathedral, found lately the leaden coffin of Bishop Bitton, who died in 1307. Near the bones of the finger was discovered a sapphire ring set in gold, in the centre of which is engraved a hand with the two forefingers extended in the attitude of benediction.

[1835, *Part I., pp.* 148-150.]

The ancient, and in many respects curious, church of St. Edmund on the Bridge having been recently taken down, I enclose a drawing of the building, and a few observations, with a view of preserving some slight reminiscences of a structure, which however humble its first appearance might be, will be found, in common with nearly all our ancient parish churches, to possess a considerable degree of antiquarian interest.

The foundation is connected with the history of Exe Bridge, which, according to Izacke,* was founded by Walter Gervis, a

* "Memorials of the City of Exeter," 1677, p. 13.

wealthy citizen, in the year 1250. The Rev. G. Oliver, of St. Nicholas's (Catholic) Chapel at Exeter, who has investigated with deep research the history of his city, leads us to the correct date of this structure. The founder of the bridge erected a chapel on the arches at the east end thereof, which, adds Mr. Oliver,* "there is abundant reason to suppose is no other than the present parish church of St. Edmund." The church would appear to possess an earlier date from the circumstance of Izacke having erroneously inserted in the list of churches, which appear to have existed in the city in the time of Bishop Simon de Apulia,† the Church of St. Edmund. This list is acquired from the circumstance of the above-named prelate having deemed it necessary to arrange and regulate the boundaries of the several parishes within the city; and this regulation having been concluded in 1222, it would make St. Edmund's Church (if the present building was referred to) older than the bridge on which it stands, and at the same time deprive the worthy citizen Gervis of the "diadem" which his labours so "truly deserved." Mr. Oliver proves the fallacy of Izacke's enumeration by a list derived from the taxation of Pope Nicholas IV. and the Register of the See, in which the name of this church is not included, thus exposing the error into which Izacke has led his readers by inducing them to believe that the church existed in the time of Bishop Simon.

It is singular to observe the proneness of antiquarian writers to shut their eyes to the intrinsic evidence which ancient buildings afford; although Isacke records the foundation of the bridge by Gervis, and adds that a chapel dedicated to St. Edmund was built upon it by the founder, and in which chapel he states him to have been actually interred; and although he had before him the identical bridge with its chapel still existing and dedicated to the same saint, we find him but a few pages before giving to the structure a prior existence of thirty years. Of the age of the bridge there was no question, and that the chapel did exist a few years after the erection of the bridge is demonstrated by the following extract from Bishop Bronescombe's Register, fol. 33 :‡

"Anno octavo consecrationis (1265), in crastino S'ci Bartholomei, D'nus Ep'us ad presentationem Maioris et Civium Civitatis Exoniens. S'ci Edmundi super Pontem Exon. verorum Patronorum, Vivianum Capellanum admisit."

The original chapel, after its erection, became parochial; but although the benefice is at present styled a rectory, it is destitute of the necessary adjunct of tithes. The value is stated in the Parliamentary return at £138, which is its maximum, the incumbent being one of the numerous instances of ill-paid clergy in the Established Church. In Veysey's Register, fol. 88, vol. ii., it is described thus: "Cantaria

* "History of Exeter," 8vo., 1821, p. 39. † "Memorials," p. 6.
‡ Oliver, 39.

super pontem civitatis Exon. Decima vs."* And at the period of the Reformation it continued to be a chantry: the last incumbent, Nicholas Dixon, received £5 per annum. The period at which the chapel rose into the dignity of a church was in all probability the reign of Elizabeth. Even this small establishment had afforded some plunder to the greedy devourers of church property, and the small stipend of the nominal rector was all that could be afforded out of the remains of its former endowment.

There were few ancient bridges of magnitude without the accompaniment of a chapel. The value of a safe and secure mode of transit was felt with gratitude by our forefathers; and as these structures were generally raised by the benevolence of individuals, the chapel invited the passenger to pause and repeat his prayer for the repose in the next world of an individual who had conferred so great a benefit on the present. In our own day such structures are too often melancholy evidences of jobbing; one generation suffices to witness their foundation, completion, and decay.

The chapels were situated either at a right angle with the bridge, as at London, Wakefield, Rotheram, etc., or parallel to it, as in the present instance, and St. William's Chapel, York, and sometimes on the bank at the foot, as at Rochester. The position was determined by the course of the river, the chapel being erected in a direction east and west, towards whatever point of the compass the river might flow.

Such of your readers who may wish for further information on this head may consult Mr. Norrisson Scatcherd's "Dissertation on Ancient Bridges and Bridge Chapels."

The sketch from which the present woodcut was made was taken from an opposite window on August 1, 1830, at which time the demolition of the church was talked about. A crack was visible in the north wall; but probably the fondness for improvement which has led to the rebuilding of several of the churches in the city was the actual cause of its demolition. The protecting genius of the church would exclaim "repair," but "not destroy;" but this small still voice would be drowned in the yells of the demon of improvement.*

The exterior, as far as could be seen, was built of the red sandstone so common in the buildings of Exeter. The mullions and arches of the windows and doors were executed in freestone, forming a pleasing variety. The door-cases and the two windows in the church, with the lower one in the tower, are of the latter part of the fifteenth century. The square windows and door towards the east are not earlier than the reign of Elizabeth, and were probably constructed when the church became parochial. This portion of the structure may have

* Holy Trinity Church, Exeter, was rebuilt in 1819-1820. The old church possessed at least one feature worthy of attention. See Buckler's Eltham, p. 74. The present is truly styled by Mr. Oliver, "an inelegant structure."

been the residence of the chantry priest at a prior period. The upper part of the tower, with its ugly leaded spire, is a manifest addition of more modern times.

The interior consisted of a nave and side-aisle, divided by arches either circular or very obscurely pointed, the columns octagonal with moulded caps. The galleries, which occupied the west end and north side, were ornamented on the front with round arches, within which were painted the royal arms and those of the see and city of Exeter and the twelve Apostles. The style of decoration bespoke the age of the galleries to be of the period of James I. In the western gallery was the organ, which, like that of the cathedral, had some of its pipes disposed on the walls at the sides.

The church contained no monuments, and the modern font, which resembled an apothecary's mortar when not used, was drawn up by pulleys to the brestsummer of the west gallery. In the windows of the church were many relics of stained glass, of which I regret I had only time to take a note.

In the windows of the south front (shown in the cut) were the emblems of the eucharist (the chalice and wafer), and of the passion (cross and crown of thorns), and the following arms: Argent, on a chevron gules between three leopards' faces azure, a lozenge or, Copleston; probably John Copleston, Esq., Sheriff of Exeter, 7th, 8th, and 9th of Charles II. 2. Argent, a chevron gules between three lozenges azure. North side: 1. England held by an angel. 2. Or, three torteauxes, Courtenay. 3. Emblems of the passion, viz., the cross, ladder, and spear. 4. On a lozenge three roundlets (colours gone), probably Courtenay. In the clerestory: 1. The city of Exeter. 2. Ermine, three flowers gules; impaling argent, a saltire couped azure between four pears or. 3. On a roundel, the baron, as No. 2; femme, ermine, two bars gules.

I regret that I had not time to make drawings of these relics; but it is to be hoped that the originals will be safely preserved in the new church. Yours, etc., E. I. C.

[1838, *Part I., pp.* 484, 485.]

The old house known by the name of King John's Tavern, of which the front door is represented in the accompanying plate, stood in South Street, Exeter, but has lately been pulled down.

The inquiries of our antiquarian friends in that city have resulted in ascertaining that no deed or other document relating to it, of more than eighty years' age, is known to be in existence; nor is any tradition current, except that which ascribes its name to the circumstance of King John having once occupied it during a visit to Exeter. The late house, however, was probably erected in the reign of Henry VII., and was chiefly remarkable for its richly carved

wainscotings and ceilings, and for a singularly beautiful circular staircase.

The statues at the doorway, which were well executed, appear to have represented a porter or serjeant at mace, and a clown or domestic fool. Above the head of the former was a shield of the royal arms of France and England, quarterly; and over that of the latter, a shield charged with a castle, the armorial ensign of the city of Exeter. We hope these figures are preserved; and perhaps some correspondent will oblige us by stating where.

The drawing was made by Mr. F. Wilkinson, a young and ingenious artist now resident in Bath. J. G. N.

[1803, *Part I.*, *p.* 113.]

I herewith send you (Plate II.) slight, but I believe correct, sketches of a stone cross in Devonshire. It consists of a block of granite, which has been cut into an octagon shape, and fixed in a large base, representing the Calvary cross of heraldry. This is in the village of Alphington, about one mile west of Exeter, on the side of the road leading from that city to Plymouth.

St. Stephen's Church.

[1826, *Part I.*, *p.* 630.]

A curious discovery has been made in the church of St. Stephen, now under repair, in Exeter. In digging at the east end, for the foundation of a new pillar, the labourers came upon some solid work, and on clearing away the rubbish, part of a crypt or subterraneous chapel appeared to view. Two circular columns of freestone, and of the latest Saxon period, about $5\frac{1}{2}$ feet in height, and distant about $3\frac{1}{2}$ feet from each other, were found in excellent preservation. The capitals differed considerably: one was enriched with scroll work, the other, which was near 4 inches higher, was comparatively plainer; but had a cornice ornamented with a species of dentiles or rather billets. At the time of the Conquest, as Domesday proves, there was a church of St. Stephen in that city. The present fabric was erected on its site, and probably was enlarged soon after the restoration of King Charles II. No documents exist, in the parish chest, to throw any light on the ancient fabric; but it is known that the churchwardens, on August 11, 1657, were ordered to bring forthwith to the then Mayor of Exeter, a true inventory of all the bells, goods, utensils, and implements, belonging to the church, and to give up possession of the whole to the said Mayor. Shortly after, the church was sold to a Mr. Toby Allen, with a cellar, which probably may be the crypt now discovered.

[1867, *Part I., p.* 209.]

It is seldom I am induced now to take up my pen as an antiquary, but I still have my thoughts leaning that way, especially as I have walked through forty-two counties in England and Wales.

While engaged on the "Magna Britannia" for Lysons, I visited professionally Exeter Cathedral. Amongst other drawings made there for that work, I executed one from the monument of Bishop Stafford, which effigy was surmounted with a canopy beautifully executed in alabaster, which in time had become much injured. That was in 1821. About twenty-five years afterwards I again visited the cathedral, and observing to the verger, with regret, that it still remained nearly in the same state, he made this remark: "Ah, sir, since that time it has been restored, but malicious and unfriendly persons to the Church of England have reduced it to the same state as when you drew it for the County History."

I am, etc., THE ITINERANT ANTIQUARY.

Ford.

[1846, *Part II., pp.* 625, 626.]

The ancient mansion of Ford Abbey having been transferred into the hands of the trustees for George Miles, Esq., of Bristol, by sale, a public auction of eight days' duration has just been concluded of the paintings, furniture, etc. The disposal of the plate (some of which belonged to Francis Gwyn, Secretary at War to Queen Anne), occupied almost the whole of the first day. . . . The second day was devoted to the sale of the paintings, eighty-two in number; they were not of any very great value though a few were curious. . . . On the third day five pieces of Arras Tapestry, after the Cartoons of Raphael, presented by Queen Anne to Mr. Secretary Gwyn, and for which his son refused £30,000 offered by Count Orloff on behalf of the Empress Catherine of Russia, were sold to the new proprietor of the abbey at £2,200. The fourth and fifth days were occupied by the sale of the books, manuscripts, and pamphlets. . . .

Haccombe.

[1844, *Part I., pp.* 381, 382.]

The elegant effigy represented in the annexed plate is in the private chapel of the Courtenays, at Haccombe, in Devonshire.* It is of alabaster, scarcely more than two feet long, and rests on a small table monument. It is evidently of the fourteenth century, and the representation of a youth who had not assumed arms, a change in the

* The drawing and etching were both made by Mr. Robert Stothard, who was told that it represented one who would, had he lived, have become Earl of Devon. It had escaped the notice of the Messrs. Lysons.

life of a young nobleman which generally took place about the age of fifteen.* He wears the attire of peace, and, in respect to costume, assimilates with the youthful effigies of William of Windsor, son of King Edward III., in Westminster Abbey, and of William of Hatfield, another son of that monarch, in York Cathedral.

The head of the Courtenay family, during the whole of the long reign of Edward III., was Hugh, second Earl of Devon. He died in the last year of that king, and was buried in Exeter Cathedral, having married Margaret Bohun, daughter of Humphrey, Earl of Hereford and Essex, and grand-daughter of King Edward I. By this lady he had a family, the number of which even exceeded that of their royal cousins, the flourishing progeny of King Edward and Queen Philippa. The Earl of Devon had eight sons and nine daughters. The latter were most suitably married. The former were as follow:

1. Hugh Courtenay le Fitz, who was one of the founders of the Order of the Garter, but died in 1348 or 1349, and was buried at Ford Abbey, in Dorsetshire,† leaving one son, Hugh, who was summoned to Parliament in 1370; but also died before his grandfather, February 20, 1374.
2. Thomas, Knight of the Shire for Devon, who also died before his father.
3. Edward, whose son Edward succeeded his grandfather as third Earl in 1377.
4. William, Archbishop of Canterbury.
5. John, Knight of the Shire for Devon, 2 Richard II.
6. Philip, of Powderham, ancestor of the present Earl of Devon.
7. Sir Peter Courtenay, K.G., buried in Exeter Cathedral.
8. Humphrey.

To none of these sons can our effigy belong, unless it be to the last, of whom we have nothing but the name. The others all attained to man's estate. It may, however, represent, if not a brother, a youthful son of one of them, or even of one of their sisters. Should the means of more precise information be in the power of any of our readers, we shall be thankful to receive it.

Hayes Wood.

[1826, *Part II.*, *pp.* 509, 510.]

Having long wished to see the birthplace of the celebrated Sir Walter Raleigh, which is in a wood scarcely a dozen miles from this

* See the major part of the depositions in the Scrope and Grosvenor Controversy.

† See a memoir of him in Beltz's Memorials of the Order of the Garter, p. 31. Dugdale and most other writers have erroneously supposed that his father the Earl was the K.G. Dugdale has also attributed to a single person various facts belonging to the two Hughs, the Earl's son and grandson.

ancient city, I had lately an opportunity of gratifying my curiosity. . . . Spending a few days at Harefield House, Lympstone, the delightful residence of Edward Gattey, Esq. (Town Clerk of Exeter), which has a commanding view of the adjacent country. Whilst enjoying the luxurious and diversified prospect, it was suggested to me, that the house distinguished for the birthplace of Sir Walter Raleigh was contiguous, and within reach of a morning's ramble. . . . After descending into the valley of Pitt, I ascended a steep hill about a mile, and, on my right, passed Whimsey, the elevated seat of General Brodrick, and, a little further on, Bystock, the elegant mansion of E. Divett, Esq. I then mounted to the summit of Woodbury Common, an extensive heath, the property of Lord Rolle, Sir T. F. Drake, Bart., and Mr. Divett. The view from these towering heights is spacious and grand, displaying a magnificent panorama of beautiful and sublime scenery.

Here I made a momentary halt, to survey the pleasing variety of land and ocean which encircled me, of cheerful villages, watering-places, and the English Channel. South-east, in my front, at about two miles distance, I beheld below me Hayes Wood, where the house I was in search of was to be found, which I soon approached, but met with no one from whom I could derive any information of the right way to it. I took the wrong path, but coming to a cottage inhabited by a retired old huntsman, formerly in the service of Lord Rolle, I was directed to return back, and enter the wood at my left, where I should find a wicket gate, through which I might pass to Hayes Farm. This I attempted, but the path was choked up with brambles; so, passing round the skirts of the copse, I fell in with a horse track, and entered a solitary lane. No human being was to be seen or heard, but the gloominess of the way was agreeably relieved by perceiving at my feet the ground strewed with variegated silex, and I collected a few brilliant specimens; for this stone is considered by some as splendid as the agate, and may be converted to ornamental purposes. Continuing my route, at length an opening appeared, shaded almost every way by trees. To my left, I now saw the ancient habitation of Sir Walter Raleigh. It had been depicted to me as a small and inferior farmhouse; it is not so, but may be ranked higher than farmhouses in general. It is a brick edifice, one story in height, and I think the front may exceed fifty feet in length, with a long garden before it, oblong square, inclosed by venerable brick walls of several score feet. A crystal stream of water divided the yard, which, to avoid passing through, I went over a broken-down stone bridge, and moved towards the house. Having found the mistress, she introduced me into the dining-room, and afterwards to the chamber that Sir Walter Raleigh was born in. The entrance to the stairs is directly from the kitchen or common hall, which is profoundly dark, the light to it being communicated only when

the kitchen door is open. As I ascended, I glanced at some old paintings suspended on the sides of the lime-washed walls, but the darkness of the passage rendered them scarcely perceptible; they were half-length portraits, and reminded me of Holbein's, as the antiquity of their dresses might be traced to the fifteenth or sixteenth century.*

We now entered the noted chamber. It was a pleasant apartment, and in neat order, about 18 feet in length by 14 feet wide. The window commanded a view of the garden in front, and romantic scenery around. I confess my mind felt peculiarly impressed at being inclosed in the identical room where so celebrated a man burst into existence 274 years ago, anno 1552. It appears that these premises were not held by the Raleighs more than thirty or forty years, being the remainder of a lease of eighty years, and, at the expiration thereof, reverted to the Duke family. It is certain that Sir Walter was partially fond of this solitary retreat, and wished to obtain a permanency in it; for in his letter dated from Court, July 26, 1584, he writes "for the natural disposition I have to the place, being born in that house, I had rather seat myself there than anywhere else."† But his application to purchase it failed; the proprietor would not sell it to him, and it afterwards remained a long period with the Duke family; and I am informed that a few years since, this estate of Hayes was purchased by Lord Rolle, and is now tenanted by Farmer Carter.

SHIRLEY WOOLMER.

Heavitree.

[1850, *Part I., p.* 301.]

In removing one of the old almshouses of the Livery Dole, at Heavitree, near Exeter, a curious discovery has been made. It is the remnant of the stake to which Bennet, the schoolmaster, was tied in 1531, and of which burning for heresy an account is given by Hoker. His crime was denying the divinity of the Virgin Mary, and denouncing transubstantiation. "Bennet (or Benet), the Torrington schoolmaster, was tied up in a neat-skin (cow-skin), and burnt with all the furze and faggots the parish of Heavitree could supply. One of the Carews burnt his beard with a blazing brand." The stake found is of elm,

* Whether these portraits belonged originally to the house, I could not clearly ascertain. Mrs. C. thought that her husband procured them some time since in the neighbourhood. I know it is not uncommon, where ancient mansions, in remote and obscure situations, are deserted by landlords, and left to be occupied by tenants, that old portraits often remain neglected on the walls. There is at this day at Stowe, near Kilkhampton, what was formerly a spacious old hall, now turned into a barn, and a number of old portraits still keep their station on the walls; of which I have been an eye witness. These premises I am told were once the residence of a lady of King Charles II.'s connection. The estate is now occupied by Mr. John Shearm, Junr.

† "Prince's Worthies," p. 666.

slightly charred; and there has also been found the iron ring which went round the apex of the stake into which a stout staple, clamp, or bolt, somewhat in the guise of a ship's anchor, with transverse prongs or flukes, was inserted, having a ring or circular hole at the top, through which the chain went which confined the sufferer to the fatal tree. These relics are deposited at the Exeter Institution.

Holne.

[1828, *Part II.*, *pp.* 114, 115.]

The parish church is paved with huge blocks of granite. . . . I was particularly struck with the rare enrichments of its ancient pulpit, of which I send you a sketch. It is beautifully carved, gilt, and highly ornamented, and around it are various coats of arms.

This is one of the few ancient and enriched wooden pulpits in the county of Devon, which are particularized by Mr. Lysons in his "Magna Britannia."

Holne, or (as it is sometimes written) Holme, takes its name (according to Mr. Polwhele) from the abundance of large holly or holm trees, which grow in the chace, and not elsewhere.

The manor, and almost the whole of the parish, is the property of Sir Bourchier Wrey, Bart., and the late baronet a few years since erected a moderately-sized villa, situated in a most delightful spot in the park, on the banks of the Dart. The principal seat of the family is at Tawstock near Barnstaple, where is a mansion-house, on the banks of the river Taw, surpassed by few (if any) in the county, surrounded by richly varied ground, and ornamented with stately and magnificent trees.

The manor of Holne and Holne Chase were formerly part of the barony of Barnstaple, and passed (with Tawstock) successively to the Audleys and the Bourchiers (Lords Fitzwarren and Earls of Bath), from whom they descended to the present possessor.

"Here (says Risdon) Edulph anciently, then Otheline, inherited half a hide of land. After him, William Bozun, since Nicholas de la Yeo."

It appears from an inquisition that the manor was possessed by Henry, Earl of Bath, in the year 1644.

The Wreys are not only among the most ancient and respectable families in the county of Devon, but can boast even of royal blood, being descended from King Edward III.

The church of Holne was appropriated to the neighbouring rich abbey of Buckfast; and the impropriation, as well as the patronage of the vicarage, are now vested in the Rev. Samuel Lane, M.A., the present vicar. It came to him by descent from the Nosworthys, whose ancestor obtained it by marriage with the heiress of Hunt.

I cannot finish this letter to you without mentioning an important

fact, which it may be interesting and beneficial to the public to know. It relates to the exemption of the inhabitants of Dartmoor and its vicinage from pulmonary complaints. It is said that in the parishes bordering upon Dartmoor, particularly in the south-east quarter, viz., the parishes of Holne, Buckland, Widdicombe, etc., etc., that dreadful malady, the consumption, which, like a canker-worm, silently and gradually undermines youth and beauty, is there wholly unknown; and there has not been an instance, in the memory of the oldest persons living, of its originating in the pure air of that district.

It is well known that great numbers of consumptive patients are sent every year from all parts of the kingdom to certain towns on the sea coast, both in Devon and Cornwall, but it is not perhaps duly considered how small the proportion is of those who return to their homes benefited, and how many are left corpses in the church or churchyard of the place where they have sojourned. . . .

VIATOR.

[1829, *Part II.*, *p.* 504.]

The pulpit at Holne is one Mr. Lysons enumerates among those worthy of notice in the county of Devon. It is a particularly good specimen of the taste and workmanship of the latter end of the fifteenth century, formed of oak, with enough of the colour and gilding on the mouldings and enrichments to show that it was splendidly ornamented according to the taste of that period.

On seven sides of the octagon, the eighth resting against a pillar, is a shield. The arms occur in the following order:

1. Or, a cross gules, the cross of St. George.

2. Quarterly, England and France.

3. Four principal quarters. One and four, quarterly argent, a cross engrailed gules between four water-bougets, sable, bourchier. Two and three, Chequy, or and gules, a fess of the first* Eu (?). The second and third principal quarters, quarterly per fess indented ermine and gules, Fitzwarren. "The manors of Holne and Holne Clare," says Mr. Lysons, "appear to have been part of the barony of Barnstaple, and to have passed with Tawstock successively to the Audleys and to the Bourchiers Lords Fitwarren and Earls of Bath. They now belong to their representative, Sir Bourchier Wrey, Bart., who has a hunting seat here in a singularly romantic situation."

4. Sable, a chevron or between three owls argent, on a chief of the second three roses gules, Oldham.

5. Sable, a crozier in pale argent, crooked or, surmounted by a stag's head caboshed of the second, horned gules. This shield belonged to Buckfastleigh Abbey, whose territorial possessions in the parish were considerable, as may be seen in Lysons.

6. Gules, a bend and label of five points or. This coat is that of

* These colours are perhaps incorrectly repainted.

William de Columbers, to whom the manor was assigned in the division of lands of his father-in-law, the last Lord Martin, who died in 1326, although it was afterwards transferred to Lord Audley, the son of the other sister. The same coat was borne by Barnstaple Abbey.

7. Gules, a cross moline or, in the upper quarters the letters S. J., being the initials of St. John, to the hospital dedicated to which saint at Exeter the patronage of Holne appertained.

It is to be remarked that the colours of several of the shields have been altered by some ignorant beautifier of the last century.

On the underpanelling of the screen are to be seen some cleverly painted full lengths of saints concealed behind the seats, to which they have probably owed their preservation.

A Resident in the Neighbourhood of Holne.

Honiton.

[1793, *Part I., pp.* 113-116.]

Honiton, in the south-east border of Devon, constituting part of the Axminster hundred, is 156 miles west of London, near the river Otter, which hence, after a course of 10 miles, and passing the town of Ottery St. Mary, falls into the English Channel at Otterton. It is bounded on the east by the parishes of Moncton and Offwil, on the south by Farway and Sidbury, on the west by Gittisham and Awliscombe, and the river on the north divides it from Crombrawleigh. The parish is small, being about 8 miles in circumference, and is in good cultivation. The soil, which varies, is chiefly a rich loam and clay, and mostly pasture and meadow land. About five tons of butter are sent weekly to London during the season from the vicinity; of course the cheese is defective in quantity and quality. The inclosures, which are small, are screened by luxuriant hedges. Trees, but not of a large kind, are numerous. The cyder made in the adjacent parishes is greater and better than in this.

The manor of Honiton was possessed by Drago, a Saxon, but was given by William I. to his half-brother, Robert, Earl of Moreton, afterwards Earl of Cornwall, son of Harlotta, the Conqueror's mother, to whom succeeded William his son, who, taking part with Robert the Norman against Henry I., was taken and lost his possessions. The manor, now in the gift of Henry, was presented to De Redvers, Earl of Devon. Isabella de Fortibus, the last of this family, sold it to Edward I., who then transferred it to Sir John Knovil. On the restoration of Hugh Courtenay to the Earldom of Devon, he, probably by purchase, obtained the manor; for Hugh Courtenay, the second earl, gave it to his son, Sir Philip, a proof the property was not annexed to the title. With this family it has continued ever since, William Lord Viscount Courtenay being the

present proprietor. The parish includes some smaller manors.* Battishorn, which Sir Gilbert Knovil reserved, had Humphrey Arundel for its lord, who headed the Cornish rebels in Edward VI.'s reign. It was bought by Walter Yonge, Esq., and belongs now to Sir George Yonge, K.B. The town is on the great western road, 16 miles east of Exeter, in one of the finest parts of the county, in a vale adorned with the majestic promontories of Hembury Fort, St. Cyres, and Gittisham Hills, whose variegated sides always produce the charm of novelty; these, with a distant view of others beyond Exeter and Cullumpton, give a *coup d'œil*, which for gracefulness and beautiful scenery may vie with Italy.† Honiton is a borough by prescription from Edward I.'s time; but neglecting its right near 400 years, it was by William Pole, Esq., in the 16th Charles I., restored to this distinctive honour.‡ The right of election being in those paying scot and lot, and housekeepers' potwallers not receiving alms, which right of the latter was exercised every succeeding election; and on a petition against Walter Yonge, Esq., in 1701, it was confirmed by a committee of commons; but in 1710, upon a special return of Sir William Drake, Bart., Sir Walter Yonge, Bart., and James Sheppard, Esq., the portreeve referred the matter to the house, who then decided it to be in those paying scot and lot only; but in 1724 it was again settled to be likewise in potwallers not having received alms. This borough, in common with many others, suffered a total extinction of its ancient rights by James II. giving it a charter and investing the right of election in freemen only, all of whom were packed country gentlemen.§ The usual routine of officers were chosen,‖ and met in the town hall; but of that, or of the records of the court, there are now no direct traces. On the Revolution it reverted to its old constitution. At the last election 373 persons polled. A portreeve, chosen annually, is the returning officer. The place consists principally of one large open street, paved, lighted, watered, and provided with common sewers, and in an improving state.¶ The buildings convey no trace of antiquity, being mostly new built, the fires of 1747 and 1765 leaving scarcely any part unburnt; they are mostly covered with slate, which gives them a pleasing effect at a distance. The tenures are renewable life leases, possessing the spirit of feudalism. The farmers are generally

* See Sir William Pole's "Collections on Devonshire," 4to., Nichols, 1791.

† See Baretti's "Tour to Italy," *cum multis aliis.*

‡ "Ex dono Gulielmi Pole, armigeri, qui ex amore hanc oppidam, pene 400 annis intermissi, jam juri burgensium restoravit in parliamento, 16to regis Caroli, anno Domini 1640, secundum antiquum sigillum hujus burgis." Engraved round the borough seal, with the arms of Pole.

§ See Burnet's "History of his Own Times," vol. i., fol., p. 625, 1724.

‖ Sir Thomas Putt, Bart., was the first mayor; but, being also chosen member, the king removed him, and John Pole, Esq., was elected.

¶ By an Act passed 30 Geo. III. for improving the town.

tenants at rack-rent. The land-tax raised annually in the parish is £614 19s. 8d.; the poor rate, on an average, £550 per annum; the county rates at present about £20. The workhouse is large, neat, and healthy. The market is on Saturday, and a fair is held in July. The woollen manufactory is carried on, and rich lace and edgings made. A free school is endowed with a house and small salary. A school of industry for girls is supported by ladies, and a charity and Sunday-school about to be established by subscription. The chapel, in which weekly duty and subscription lectures on Sunday evenings are performed, is of uncertain antiquity, but so ruinous in 1742 that it was completely taken down—at this time it had a low obtuse spire with three small bells. The new chapel began rebuilding by subscription, and advanced so slowly that little more than a tower with a cupola and six bells was finished in 1765, and which the great fire that year totally destroyed. The present is a neat structure with a square embattled tower of flint with six bells, a clock and chimes, which was completed and opened in 1769. The tenor, made with the melted metal of a larger size, has the motto in allusion:

> "Corripuit me flamma vorax depressa resurgo,
> Ac aucto didici fortius ore loqui."

The only remains of the ancient building is an effigy placed in an elevated niche at the west end of the tower, which tradition reports as the figure of Elizeas Harding, clerk, who in 1523 was a great benefactor to, if not the founder of, this edifice. It is dedicated to All Saints. There are a Presbyterian, an Independent, and General Baptist meetings. The parish church is half a mile distant on a bold eminence, the access to which is by a wide road and walk, which is very ancient. The living is a rectory, charged in the king's books at £40 4s. 2d.—the present value about £400 per annum. The parsonage is a little to the right of the church, is a good house, and has an extensive glebe. The tithes are due in kind, but are at present paid by a composition of 2s. 3d. in the £, according to the real rent. Near the church are stables to accommodate those who ride. The chancel, the most ancient part, was probably a little chapel of mendicant friars—its situation near the roadside favours this idea. The body, consisting of a nave and aisles, were added by degrees. Bishop Courtenay, lord of the manor about 1480, built the tower, which is square, embattled 63 feet high, with five bells. The church, including the chancel, is 75 feet long, and 48 feet broad. The churchyard is rather small, adorned with eight fine spiral yews. It has few, but some old, tombs; a headstone for Thomas Baker, a butterman, who was robbed and murdered near Exeter, April 17, 1724. In the north side of the church a monument for Anne Baker, who died July 24, 1770, aged 25; also Susan Baker, her mother, relict of Rev. Thomas Baker, rector of Hungerford, Berks, who died October 25, 1785, aged 74. Near the door a tomb for Thomas Mar-

wood, gent., physician to Queen Elizabeth,* who died in the Catholic faith, September 18, 1617, aged above 105; also his wife Temperance, who died October 9, 1644 [no age]. Over the door a monument for Bridget Ford, great grand-daughter to the above Thomas Marwood, and relict of Edward Ford, of Honiton, Bachelor of Physic, who died March 3, 1746, aged 86. Arms: gules, a castle, in base a cross patée or, for Ford, impaling gules, a chevron ermine, between three goats' heads erased proper for Marwood. In the north-east corner: A handsome monument for John Blagdon, Esq., buried December 10, 1714, aged 45, and many of the family. Arms: Az. three trefoils argent, on a chief indented gules, two annulets or, for Blagdon, other shields with alliances. On the south side: a monument for James Sheppard, Esq., serjeant at law, and member for Honiton, who died 1730, aged 49. Arms: quarterly, first and fourth sable, a fess argent, in chief three battleaxes paleways of the second, with a label; second and third, argent, a lion rampant with semée of crosslets fitchy, gules; crest, a dog sejant argent, spotted with blood, hoofed or, on a wreath argent and sable. A small marble shield for Elijah Blampin, gent., who died December 4, 1787, aged 59. A marble bust of William Gill, Esq., who died December 4, 1756, aged 72, with others of the family. Arms: per fess, azure and argent on a bend sable three quartre-foils of the second; a lion's head erased and crosslet fitchy at top, and in base counterchanged. On a flat stone in the chancel an elegant Latin inscription for Ezra Cleaveland, B.D., rector of Honiton, who died August 7, 1740, aged 80. On two pillars the Courtenay arms, topaz, three torteaux. On two pillars in the chancel: "Pray for the soul of John Takell, and Jone hys wyffe," with a mildrine sable between.† The altar-piece is of stone, with gilt tablets of the creed, etc.; the railing raised on black and white marble lozengy. The organ gallery and screen is finely painted and gilt and of curious workmanship. The brass chandeliers were given by Sir William Yonge, K.B. The font is small, lined with lead. The pulpit plain,

* During the progress of Charles I. in the West, on the 25th of July, 1644, he slept one night at Dr. Marwood's, a physician, in Honiton. "Collectanea Curiosa," vol. ii., No. 13. This was, doubtless, the son of the above. This house is now the property and residence of W. J. Tucker, M.A., rector of Widworthy, who is a maternal descendant from both these. The house was built by John Marwood, physician, and Bridget his wife, 1619.

† There are no armorial insignia recorded in the College of Arms for Takell, nor in Sir W. Pole's Collection of Arms of Devonshire families; but the name is arranged in the list. This John Takell was a person of property, who lived in Honiton in Henry VII.'s time. He was versed in the law; and his only daughter married Baldwin Mallet, solicitor to Henry VIII. On two flat stones, near the above pillars, are these inscriptions: "Hic jacet Johanna Takell, vidua, quæ obiit 13 die Julii, 1529." "Hic jacet magister Johannes Rygge, quondam rector hujus ecclesiæ, thesaurus Crediton." No date to the latter; but to each, "Cujus animæ parcet Deus. Amen."

over which, at angles in the ceiling, are four faces, carved and painted, habited separately with wings, a mitre, a cowl, and armour—perhaps designed for St. Michael, the dedicatory saint, the bishop, the incumbent, and the patron, emblematic as supporters of the fabric.*

Of Rectors.—In Edward I., Henry de Pynkenee.† In Edward III., Mr. Sowerdon. In Henry VIII., Matthew Fayrman, Mr. Bale, Mr. Tripp, Mr. Parke died in 1564, Henry Steevens, who succeeded, died within the year 1564, Mr. Slade, Mr. Dowrish, Andrew Cockram, who died 1598, was succeeded by John Robins. 1605, Philip Nichols. 1613, John Eedes, B.D., who, being a Royalist, was in 1648 sequestered, and succeeded, *pro tempore*, by Francis Sourton, a celebrated preacher, who, on the Act of Uniformity passing, resigned, and in 1662 was succeeded by Ozias Upcott. 1698, Ezra Cleaveland, B.D. 1740, Charles Bertie, M.A. 1788, Edward Honywood, B.A. The patronage in the Courtenay family. At the visitation of the College of Arms, in 1620, no person entered either pedigree or arms from Honiton.

Of Benefactions.—These are preserved on two tablets in the church; the most remarkable of which is the chapel of St. Margaret, with a leper house adjoining, and tenements and lands for its support, which was left in 1550 by Thomas Chard, the last abbot of Ford, who was born at Tracey, near Honiton, and took his degree of D.D. in St. John's College, 1505. By a decree in Chancery, it is now vested in the rector and churchwardens for the admission of poor persons.‡ This chapel (see plate II.) has one small bell, is 33 feet long, 13 feet wide, contains an humble desk, a form, and books. Prayers, by one of the charity, are read twice a week. Mr. Prince and Mr. Wood assert Thomas Chard to be the founder; but Mr. Cleaveland affirms it to have existed before his time.§ Those whom the vindictive Jeffreys had executed at Honiton, for favouring Monmouth, were, near this spot, boiled in pitch, and their limbs placed on the shambles, and other public places: Mr. Potts, a young surgeon, of Honiton, died with great fortitude.‖ The name of Honiton is of obscure etymology. *Ton* signifies *a habitation, a town; honi*,¶ in the old Norman French, signified the same as *honte*

* This beautiful church is in expectation of a picture from the pencil of Ozias Humphry, Esq., as a tribute of respect and love for the place of his birth.

† Who was proctor for the Bishop of Exeter in the parliament held at Carlisle. See Atterbury's "Rights of an English Convocation," p. 488. The earlier part of the list of rectors I present on the authority of a memorandum in an old register.

‡ A small acknowledgement is paid to Sir George Yonge, K.B., the chapel having been built on a spot given from the manor of Battishorn. A chapel of the same name, and a leper house adjoining, existed at Taunton prior to Henry VIII. See Toulmin's "History of Taunton," 4to., 1791.

§ Prince's "Worthies of Devon"; Wood's "Athen. Oxon."; Cleveland's "History of the Courtenays," folio.

‖ Locke's "Western Rebellion," 8vo., Taunton.

¶ A tenement of Sir George Yonge's, in Luppit, is called *Honi*well. This shows the word was in use.

does now, that is *shame* or *disgrace*. An old legend relates, that at a certain time almost all the women of the place were barren, and of course childless; that, to remedy this evil, they were enjoined by the priests to repair to St. Margaret's Chapel, and pass one whole day and night there in prayer, when, by means of a vision, they would become pregnant; and the saint never abused their confidence. The arms of the borough (see the great seal, Plate II., fig. 2), which are singular, seem to allude to somewhat of this kind, though perhaps of Saxon origin. It represents a pregnant female in devotion to an idol auspicious to parturient women, an obstetric hand above beneath an honeysuckle, the whole surrounded with beads. There is now, however, no occasion for any invocation to the saint, the *honi*, or *shame* and *disgrace*, of the town, being long since completely done away. The vicinity, though not so populous as more inland situations, boasts a neighbourhood as replete with friendship, hospitality, and politeness. The representatives are, Sir George Yonge, K.B. and George Templer, Esq. The prevalent amusements are dancing and card-assemblies, and reading societies. I will conclude with a state of the register for these last twelve years. The earliest register commences in 1564*.

Year.	*Bap.*	*Mar.*	*Bur.*	*Year.*	*Bap.*	*Mar.*	*Bur.*
1780 - -	66	24	111	1786 - -	62	17	52
1781 - -	75	25	59	1787 - -	44	19	57
1782 - -	61	19	60	1788 - -	42	23	49
1783 - -	60	20	96	1789 - -	44	16	56
1784 - -	54	19	52	1790 - -	64	16	84
1785 - -	54	13	69	1791 - -	70	14	46

J. Feltham.

[1793, *Part I., pp.* 393, 394.]

Inclosed I send a drawing (Plate I.) of St. Michael's church, Honiton, together with the inscription.

The yew-tree which is at the east end of the church is the only monument of Mr. William Baker, attorney-at-law, and his wife, who planted it from his garden, a few years previous to his death, at the feet of his wife: it is about thirty years standing. The spiral yews, which adorn the walk, were planted about seventy years since by Mr. Serjeant Sheppard, some time member for Honiton, from his garden, now belonging to Mr. Edward Carter, attorney-at-law. His monument described as above referred, was principally composed of a marble slab, which used to decorate his hall, as being thought more durable than any then to be procured.

* In June, 1724, twenty-nine persons died of the small-pox. In July, fifty-four died; fifty of the same disorder. In 1731, nearly the same number in a month: inoculation was then little known. 1780, were many children of disease. 1783, influenza prevailed. Since the tax on baptisms, in 1783, many persons evade the entering by private baptism. 1788, three persons were buried in one week, whose united ages were 272 years.

I subjoin a list of members for Honiton, more correct than any yet printed :

1640, William Pole and Walter Yonge, Esquires. 1660, Sir John Yonge and Samuel Searle. 1661, Courtenay Pole and Peter Prideaux, Esqrs. 1678, Sir Walter Yonge and Sir Thomas Putt, Barts. 1681, Ditto. 1685, Edmund Waldron and Sir Thomas Putt. 1688, Edmund Waldron and Richard Courtenay. 1690, 1695, 1698, 1701, 1702, 1705, 1708, Sir William Drake and Sir Walter Yonge. 1710, Sir William Drake ; and a double return of Sir Walter Yonge and James Sheppard, Esq., decided in favour of Sir Walter Yonge. 1713, William Drake and James Sheppard, Esq. 1714, Sir William Yonge and Sir William Pole. 1722, 1727, Ditto. 1734, Sir William Yonge and William Courtenay. 1741, Sir Walter Yonge and Henry Reginald Courtenay. 1747, Sir Walter Yonge and John Heath Duke. 1754, Sir George Yonge and H. R. Courtenay. 1761, John Duke and H. R. Courtenay. 1763, Sir George Yonge and John Duke. 1768, Sir George Yonge and Alderman Crosby. 1774, Sir George Yonge and Laurence Cox. 1780, Sir George Yonge and Alexander Macleod. 1781, Sir George Yonge and Jacob Wilkinson, Esq. 1784, Sir George Yonge and Sir George Collier. 1790, Sir G. Yonge and George Templer, Esq.

The following inscription, on a flat stone before the communion rails in Honiton Church, was written by the Rev. Richard Lewis, M.A., who died November 27, 1775. He was rector of Fiddeton, in Somersetshire ; vicar of Buckerel, in Devon ; master of the grammar-school in Honiton ; chaplain to Lord Bellenden ; and in the commission of peace for Devonshire. He possessed from nature strong parts, which he cultivated with the sciences. He died esteemed and regretted. [Inscription omitted.]

This stone was placed in compliance with the will of Mr. Cleveland's only daughter, who married Jonathan Ward, a merchant of Exeter. From the badness of the stone, this inscription is now totally obliterated. Mr. Cleveland, in his genealogical history of the Courtenay family, mentions the tower-window of this church having the arms of Bishop Courtenay (who was its patron about 1480), impaled with those of his mother, who was daughter to Lord Hungerford. This was written in 1735, but I cannot find it now ; so that, if it was painted on glass, it is broken.

JOHN FELTHAM.

Horwood.

[1829, *Part I., pp.* 398-400.]

Horwood is a small parish in the north of Devon, consisting of about 800 acres. It is situated a mile south of the turnpike-road leading from Barnstaple to Bideford, and is 5½ miles from the former and 3½ miles from the latter town. It is bounded on the north and

east by the parish of Fremington, on the west by Westleigh, and on the south by Alverdiscott.

The parish is a rectory, and the advowson, for some generations, has been in the family of the present rector, the Rev. John Dene, who was instituted in 1803. It is a discharged living; the yearly value, according to examination, is £40. Tenths, 14s. 10d. The glebe is about 45 acres.

The church has a nave and chancel and north aisle, which is separated from the nave and chancel by five pointed arches, springing from clustered pillars, with capitals, apparently richly carved with heads and foliage, but daubed over with repeated coats of whitewash. At the west end is a square embattled tower, containing three bells. At the west end of the tower is a handsome Gothic window, under which is an arched door. This window formerly gave light to the nave, through an arch in the eastern wall of the tower, which is now closed with lath and plaster. Under the battlements, on the south side of the tower, are three escutcheons, but no arms are at present visible.

The church is dedicated to St. Michael. St. Michael's well, in a field near the church, was once famous for its efficacy in the cure of sore eyes and eruptions.

The seats in the church are open, and formed of thick oak. On the side panels are rude carvings of human figures and the emblems of the crucifixion of our Saviour, as the lance, the crown of thorns, nails, etc. On one of the panels near the door are two escutcheons —the arms of Pollard, a chevron between three mullets; another, a chevron between three escallop-shells; and on another panel adjoining, two others, a chevron between three birds and a demi-wolf rising out of wavy bars.

On a ledge of a window in the north aisle is a recumbent female figure, beautifully executed in alabaster. Risdon says an aisle of the church built by the Pollards has this in one of the windows:

"Orate pro bono statu Joh'is Pollard et Wilmote uxoris ejus, qui istam guildam fieri fecerunt; in which he impaleth with Pollard a griffin rampant in a field Argent, which griffin (as they have it) was borne by a Duke in ffrance, whose daughter one of their auncestors matched. She being in a nunery; he then serving his Sou'reigne grew so enamoured with her, as he humbly besought y^e^ King to procure him a dispensac'on to marry her. Before a window of which ile Eliz. Pollard lieth intombed, whose p'porc'n in alabaster, with two children on each side, elevating her hands, is most curiously cut, as any I have seen."

At the side of the window, near the monument, on a small stone let into the wall, is the following:

"Here rest the bodies of Arthur Pollard of this parish, esquier, and Johne his wife. He was buried the 10th of October, 1633. She y^e^ 3 of June, 1622. Requiescant in pace."

In the windows of the north aisle are many fragments of stained

glass; but there exist at present no remains of the griffin of Pollard's arms or of the inscription mentioned by Risdon.

The font is more than 5 feet in height. It is of freestone, square, hollowed, and lined with lead, with a vent at the bottom to let off the water. It rests on a rounded column of freestone, which is placed on a square base. The cavity within the font is deep, and wide enough for the immersion of an infant.

The ceiling of the north aisle is coved, and, before it was lathed and plastered, must have been very handsome. The ribs still project with bosses, which appear to have been curiously carved, as does a frieze which runs along both sides of the aisle. The windows were filled with stained glass. On a boss near the east window in this aisle are the arms of Pollard, such as are on a slab covering the grave of Anthony Pollard; viz., a chevron between three mullets. This Anthony was buried 1589, and on scrubbing away the filth which had covered the slab the arms were found as perfect as when first placed there. A kind of pitchy cement had been run into the arms and inscription which surrounds the slab. Nearly in the middle of this aisle are, side by side, two slabs, about 6 feet in length, with a cross on each, but no inscription.

There are nineteen houses in the parish and 121 inhabitants.

In twenty years, from January 1, 1699, to December 31, 1718, there were baptized 61; males 36, females 25. Marriages 15. Funerals 46; males 22, females 24.

In twenty years from January 1, 1799, to December 31, 1818, baptized 98; males 46, females 52. Marriages 17. Funerals 41; males 19, females 22.

Horwood throughout its whole extent is a very elevated ridge, stretching from east to west, and sloping gently, to the north and south, to rivulets, the boundaries of the parish. A highway, connecting the turnpike roads from Barnstaple to Torrington and Bideford, passes along the summit of this ridge, and affords many delightful views of the surrounding country, of Barnstaple Bay, and Lundy Island.

The substratum is a stiff clay and the soil very shallow. The agriculture of the parish is the same with that generally adopted throughout the county; viz., pareing and burning with 40 bushels of lime to an acre, previously to the sowing of wheat. The average crop of wheat is 18 bushels per acre, 30 bushels of barley, and 30 of oats.

The Exmore sheep are those generally bred; and the cattle known as the North Devon breed are reared in this parish in high perfection. A bull bred in it obtained the prize at a late agricultural meeting.

No doubt is entertained here of the baneful influence of the barberry bush on wheat. An old and very intelligent farmer asserts

that he had frequently witnessed its pernicious effect in many fields, but more particularly in one which he rented of Mr. Dene, the present rector's father. For many years, and every year when this field was sown with wheat, he observed a partial blight radiating from a point in the hedge across the field. His attention was at length directed to the barberry bush; it was grubbed up, and, though since the field has been repeatedly sown with wheat, no such partial blight has ever been observed.

I cannot refrain from mentioning a circumstance of which I was a witness. I shall merely state what I saw, without offering any observation. Shaving myself one morning early near the window, my attention was arrested by a very peculiar cry of a bird. I looked out and saw a small bird hovering in the air, apparently in the deepest distress, and descending nearer and nearer to the ground, I suspected to some of its young, but I soon saw a stoat immediately before it, whose eyes seemed to be fixed intensely on the bird. I was awaiting the final issue, when someone coming on towards the spot the bird flew away. The stoat did not escape; he had been, as I supposed, too intent on his prey to take timely precautions for his own safety. He was killed.

The landholders in the parish of Horwood are:

Earl Fortescue.

The Rev. John Dene. His estates of Church Horwood, Pen Horwood, and the advowson he inherits from the Pollards. Elizabeth Futts, the granddaughter and heiress of Arthur Pollard, the last possessor of those estates of that name, was married to John Dene, the ancestor of the present rector.

Mr. Thomas Hog, of Appledore; his estates of East and West Horwood were purchased by his father, a merchant of Appledore, of the uncle of the present Lord Rolle.

Horwood affords no rare plants; but of some which grow in the neighbourhood below is the habitat:

Pinguicula Lusitanica; Sentellaria minor; Campanula hederacea; on Torrington Common.

Osmunda regalis; on the banks of the river Torrington.

Melittis Melissophyllum; Tulipa Sylvestris; in the woods near Hall.

Bartsia Viscosa; on the roadside near the third milestone from Barnstaple to Bideford.

Rubia peregrina; common in hedges.

Sibthorpea Europæa; in and around a well near Buckland Brewer.

Scirpus Holoschænus; on Braunton Boroughs.

Inula Helenium; near Brocken Bridge.

Oxalis corniculata; near Appledore.

Inscriptions on Slabs in Horwood Church.

"Here lyeth Anthony Pollard, of Horwood, esquier, who deceased the 16 day of June, Ann. D.N. 1589."

In the middle of the slab are the arms of the Pollards.
On the adjoining slab :

"Here lyeth Johan Pollard, wyffee of Anthony Pollard of Horwood, esquier, and daughter of Lewis Stucley of Afton, esquier; she deceased 27 day of February, Anno D.N. 1599."

The Pollard arms impaled with three lions rampant.

"Here lyeth the body of Elizabeth, wife of Henry Futts, gent., daughter of Arthur Pollard of this parish, esq. who departed this life y^e^ 3d day of July, 1658."

"Here lyeth Elizabeth Dene, the wife of John Dene, gent. of this parish, who departed this life y^e^ 8th day of November, 1659."

"Here lyeth the body of John Dene of this parish, gent. who was buried the 19 day of February, 1684."

His arms are on the slab.

"Here lyeth the body of Henry Dene, son of the aforesaid John Dene, gent. who departed this life y^e^ 18 day of July, Anno Dom. 1663."

"Here lyeth the body of Arthur Pollard, gent. of Inston, who died the 25th day of August, 1631."

"Here lyeth the body of Dennis Rolle, esq. of Horwood, the son of Jn^o^ Rolle, esq. the grand son of Sir Jn^o^ Rolle of Stevenstone, Knight of the B^th^, who died y^e^ 20th of September, 1714."

"Here lyeth Anthony Pollard of Horwood, esq. who departed this life the 16th day of June, 1687."

"Here lyeth the body of Jane, the daughter of Humphery and Elizabeth Dene, gent. who departed this life the 5th day of December, Anno. Dom. 1715, ætatis suæ 23."

"Here also the body of Elizabeth, daughter of the above, who died January 21, 1715, ætat. suæ 26."

"And also the body of Rebeckah, daughter of the above, who departed this life 26 of January, 1715, ætat. suæ 22."

"Here lyeth the body of Elizabeth Dene, daughter of the aforesaid Jn^o^ Dene, who departed this life the 12th day of March, 1661."

"Here lyeth the body of Humphrey, son of Jn^o^ Dene of this parish, gent. who was buried the 8th day of December, Anno Dom. 1693."

"Here also lyeth the body of Jn^o^, the son of Humphrey Dene of this parish, gent. who departed this life y^e^ 24th day of August, 1688."

"Here lyeth in hope of a joyful resurrection, the body of Humphery Dene of this parish, esq. who departed this life y^e^ 27th day of May, in the year of our Lord 1761, and in the 71st year of his age."

"Near this place also lyes the remains of Elizabeth the wife of the above Humphery Dene, who departed this life the 1st day of March, 1783, ætat. suæ 82."

"Katherine Watts of this parish, buried 24th January, 1658."

"William Watts her son, buried y^e^ 18th of August, 1657."

"Here lyeth the remains of Mary, the wife of Peter Hole of this parish, who departed this life February 23d, 1786, aged 86."

"Here also lyeth the remains of Peter Hole of this parish, who departed this life March 11th, 1786, aged 88 years."

"Here lyeth the body of William Powe of Holmacott, in the parish of Fremington, who departed this life y^e^ 15 day of May, 1716."

"Also, Ann Powe his wife, who was buried July 15th, 1707."

"And also William Powe his son, who departed this life the 10th day of May, Anno Dom. 1715, ætat. suæ. 38."

"Here lyeth the body of William Nichols of this parish, who departed this life the 14th day of February, 1711, in the 55th year of his age."

"Here lyeth the body of Jane, daughter of John Dene, gent. and Elizabeth his wife, who died an infant, December 15th, 1654. 'Though the righteous be prevented with death, yet shall he see rest.'"

On a mural tablet near the communion table:

"In memory of Mr. Robert Brian, who was rector of this parish almost 48 years, and departed this life the 21st day of February, 1634, being the age of 81."

"Mors mihi lucrum."

On a slab within the rails:

"Reliquiæ Henrici Willett, S. T. B. et hujus ecclesiæ Rectoris, in spem resurrectionis ad vitam æternam repositæ sunt. Obiit 7 Oct. 1657."

"Here lyeth the body of Mary, the wife of Wm. Treverthick, Rector of this parish, who was buried y^e^ 22d day of May, 1675."

Yours, etc., W.

Islington.

[1793, *Part II.*, *p.* 603.]

The three inclosed figures (Plate II., figs. 3, 4, 5) represent the fragments of a stone, which are laid in different parts of the body of the church of Islington, in Devonshire. There are two or three other small fragments in the same pavement, but these are most wrought. This stone, which is unlike to any taken from the neighbouring quarries, appears to me to have been meant to commemorate a more than common person, as there is no other stone of superior quality, and but one of the same quality, in the whole pavement; and that commemorates a vicar interred in 1539. . . .

The shading is meant to signify that time has injured the surface, and rendered the lines indistinct. An explanation may throw light upon some other remnants of antiquity in the same church.

Yours, etc., VICARIUS.

Kilworthy.

[1830, *Part I.*, *p.* 493.]

This place lies about one mile north of Tavistock. It is a barton or insulated estate, and was purchased in the reign of Elizabeth by Judge Glanvile, of Holwell House, in the adjoining parish of Whitchurch. Sir Francis Glanvile, his son, erected a seat on it for his own residence, the greater part of which is still standing. The remains of a finely timbered park, and of the artificial terrace embankments of the garden, attest its former splendour. Prince details an affecting story relating to Francis Glanvile. In his youth he abandoned himself to a dissolute course of life, and his father, the judge, hopeless of his reformation, disinherited him in favour of his younger son John. At length, however,

"Consideration like an angel came,
And whipped the offending devil out of him."

He became a sincere penitent, and an altered man. His younger brother, rejoicing at the change, invited him to a banquet at Kilworthy, where, after dinner, he told him he had yet one dish more to taste, which being brought in covered, was placed before him, and he was requested to appropriate to himself the contents. These were the title-deeds of his father's estates that the younger brother, fulfilling what he knew would have been his father's will, if he could have seen his son's altered course, thus generously gave up to him.

[1844, *Part II., pp.* 264-267.]

According to the particulars furnished by the historian of Devonshire worthies, Prince, John Glanvile, son of Sir John Glanvile, was born at the family seat, Holwell House, in the parish of Whitchurch, adjacent to Tavistock. The same authority informs us that Ranulph de Glanvile,* the founder of that family in England, came over with the Norman invader.

John Glanvile, the subject of this notice, was entered of the honourable society of Lincoln's Inn, called to the bar, and in 1589 created Sergeant-at-Law; in 1598, June 30th, he was constituted Justice of the Common Pleas, and probably about that time knighted. He purchased the barton or insulated demesne of Kilworthy, distant about a mile from Tavistock, where he erected a mansion-house, some traces of the importance of which are still extant. Of this place Mrs. Bray has given us an interesting sketch in her work on the "Tamar and Tavy," vol. iii., p. 305. . . .

In a long passage of the house, as well as in one of its chambers, may still be seen, Mrs. Bray informs us, a vast number of paintings on panel, representing in succession the arms, alliances, etc., of the family of Glanvile for many generations. The hall, though now but a vestige of what it once was, shows enough to indicate its former grandeur.

The gardens of Kilworthy were on a scale suited to the place. They ran along the side of an elevated piece of ground to the west of the house; the entrance to them was through a pair of ample gates, on either supporting pier of which was a lion rampant. Kilworthy had once a chapel; a dovecote, stables, and other offices are near the house. A noble avenue of old beech-trees, overgrown with moss, and casting the deepest shade, formed the principal road to the mansion, "affording the passenger here and there those peeps of landscape and of the Dartmoor heights, between their trunks and branches, always so welcome to a lover of the picturesque." So far by the aid of Mrs. Bray have we been enabled to describe the mansion of the Glanviles; we now request her as an eye-witness to speak of its possessor's tomb.

"The effigy of Glanvile, lauded by Prince, is certainly a very

* See also Dugdale's "Baronage," vol. i., p. 423.

superior work of art; there is so much character about the face and head that I have no doubt it was an excellent likeness. . . . The effigy is that of a corpulent man lying at full length on his side, the upper part of the body being raised, and the left arm resting on a cushion.

"The countenance and brows in particular exhibit those strong marks of intellectual superiority which ever distinguish a man of talent. As a whole his head is striking and impressive, notwithstanding the injury it has sustained, by a loss of a part of the nose; the hands have likewise been mutilated.

"In front of the Judge, but beneath the figure, kneels in a praying attitude the effigy of Dame Glanvile."

A singular tradition is current at Tavistock that Judge Glanvile passed sentence of death on his own daughter. The tale is related on the authority of the Rev. E. Bray (Mrs. Bray's "Tamar and Tavy," vol. ii., p. 316). . . .

Judge Glanvile had gained a high reputation for his knowledge of law, and equity in dispensing it, but did not long enjoy his elevation to the Bench, for he died two years after his promotion. He married a lady whose maiden name was Skerret, by whom he had seven children, particularized in the following inscription, which occupies four separate compartments on his tomb, divided as in the following paragraphs:

"Honoratæ sacrum memoriæ Johannis Glanvil unius quondam Justiciarorum de Communi Banco. Qui merito factus judex summo cum labore administravit Justiciam; Justiciâ conservavit Pacem; Pace expectavit Mortem; et Morte invenit Requiem, 27° die Julii, Ann. Dom. 1600.

"Statum erat hoc monumentum, Ann. Dom. 1615. Impensis Dominæ Aliciæ Godolphin viduæ, priùs uxoris ejusdem Johannis Glanvil, renuptæ vero Francisco Godolphin militi jam etiam defuncto. Quæ peperit fidem Johanni viro suo et septem liberos.*

"Quorum nomina et connubia proxima tabula suo ordine continentur.

"1. Maria defuncta nupta Edwardo Estcourt Armigero postea militi. 2. Franciscus qui duxit in uxorem Elizabetham filiam Willelmi Grymes Armigeri. 3. Dionisia nupta Thomæ Polwheele Armigero. 4. Johannes qui duxit in uxorem Winifredam filiam Willelmi Burchier Armigeri. 5. Alicia defuncta innupta. 6. Johanna nupta Samson Hele. 7. Thomas."

Anyone who attentively peruses the above inscription will be happy, we think, to come to the conclusion that the tale respecting Judge Glanvile's daughter and Page of Plymouth is perverted by some error. The marriages of three of the Judge's daughters are specified in the inscription; no one of these was united to the name of Page, and the remaining daughter Alice died unmarried. The Judge was therefore, we conclude, never called upon to execute an office from

* This clause of the inscription appears to be much blundered. Perhaps the words engraved on the stone should have been "et quæ peperit eidem Johanni," etc. *Viro* is corrupted by a typographical error in Prince's book to *vero*.

which Christian propriety would have certainly exempted him had he been so unhappy as to find his child thus guilty and disgraced.

The dissolute manners of Sir Francis Glanvile, the Judge's eldest son, and the touching circumstances of his reform, have been noticed in the communication to which we have referred in our vol. for 1830, part i., p. 493, also by Prince, and very copiously and effectively by Mrs. Bray.*

His second son John became an eminent loyalist and lawyer, was knighted by King Charles the Second, appointed King's Serjeant, died in 1661, and was buried in the church of Broad Hinton in Wiltshire.†

Before we conclude this brief notice of Sir John Glanvile, we take occasion to speak of the honorary monument, or rather painting, executed in compliment to Queen Elizabeth, his royal mistress, on the wall near his tomb.‡ Some traces of this memorial were of late extant, and were observed by Mrs. Bray. The Queen was represented as lying in state under a canopy, this inscription being subjoined§ [inscription omitted].

So dear was the memory of Elizabeth to succeeding times that the keeping of her day of accession to the crown was the practice even in our own recollection of the offices subordinate to the Court of Exchequer; the placing painted memorials of her in parish churches was a common usage after her decease; and well did this firm and accomplished ruler deserve the gratitude of the reformed Church.

Kingsbridge.

[1799, *Part I., p.* 369.]

The inclosed bird's-eye view (Plate I.) of the town of Kingsbridge, Devon, which appears, by the date (1586), to have been taken 213 years ago, will assuredly be worthy of preservation in your Magazine. So correctly does it seem to have been executed that, prior to the year 1796, when considerable alterations were made, it continued an almost faithful representation of the place. But at that time a spirit of improvement pervading the inhabitants, which had commenced three years before, by new paving the streets with footpaths on each side in the modern style, removing the water-conduits (placed in the middle of the street since 1611), and rebuilding many of the houses, it was resolved to destroy the Butchery (or Cheapehouse), which was done accordingly, and a new one erected on the side of the street next the church, where the new building stood.

It is not known at what period the pillory was taken down, but it unfortunately happens that an awkward building, named the Butter-

* "Tamar and Tavy," vol. ii., p. 338.
† "Tamar and Tavy."
‡ See notices of Tavistock and its Abbey, *Gent.'s Mag.*, 1830, Part I., p. 489.
§ Prince.

market, has since been raised, if not exactly on the spot, at least a very little below to the south (or west, as it is called in the view); and this, the owner not permitting it to be removed on any reasonable terms, remains a disgrace to one of the most pleasantly-situated towns in the kingdom, which commands an extensive and delightful view, particularly of an inlet of the sea full five miles in length.

The manor formerly belonged to the abbey of Buckfast. After the Reformation it continued in the crown till 1558, when it was purchased by John Drake and Barnard Drake, and immediately thereon conveyed by them to Sir William Petre, the ancestor of the present Lord Petre. By this family it was held till 1792, when Lord Petre sold it to Mr. John Scoble, attorney and proctor, the present owner. It is but small, the whole parish being no more than thirty-two acres.

A. H.

Kingsteignton.

[1798, *Part I., p.* 385.]

I have sent you an extract from a tour through the southern parts of Devon, made in May, 1795. It regards the church of Kingsteignton, and its worthy vicar, the Rev. Christopher Beeke, to whose character, given in your Obituary, p. 176, it may serve as a collateral voucher.

J. Swete.

"The church of Kingsteignton is situate at the south end of the village, on a gentle eminence, overlooking the rich champaign through which the river Teign flows, whence (as well as its neighbour Bishopsteignton, and several other parishes) it has derived a part of its appellation.

"This edifice is of a handsome cast, and appears from its architecture to be of the date of the middle Gothic, the windows having no sharp turn, and not so obtuse and bending as was their form in the later periods; they spread a good deal, and have considerable ramifications. The internal part is plain, without modern decorations, and has little remarkable but an inscription on a stone in the chancel placed over the body of a quondam vicar. Its singularity induced me to take the following transcript:

"Richardus Adlam, hujus ecclesiæ vicarius, obiit Feb. 10, 1670."

"Contiguous to the churchyard are the ruins of what is supposed to have been a prebendal house. The sheaf of the parish, as well as the vicarage, belong to the church of Salisbury, and are vested in a prebendary. The barn is yet in good order, though the mansion has been long dilapidated. Of these the inclosed is a sketch, and it is a singular circumstance that, in so small a compass, a group of buildings should be crowded together so very dissimilar as a church, a ruinous

house, two barns, and a mill; taken, however, as a whole, the scene is not a little picturesque (see Plate I.)." . . .

[1842, *Part II., p.* 526.]

In digging the new canal to the Teign from Kingsteignton, a skeleton was lately discovered with a gold clasp bracelet round the wrist.

Otterton.

[1801, *Part I., p.* 14.]

Mr. Chapple, of Exeter, was for many years engaged in writing the history of Devonshire. He died, and left the most unfinished. The papers collected for that purpose are very curious and ample, but they were confused and undigested. Sir Robert Palk purchased them of Chapple's daughter, and sent them to me with most liberal offers if I would undertake the work on Chapple's plan, and publish a complete history of this county. I declined so arduous an undertaking for many reasons, but offered to arrange and methodize the various articles, and write a catalogue of the MSS. and a general review of their contents.

I have finished what I undertook, and the collection is now a noble deposit for the assistance of some future historian. It will be lodged in Sir Robert's library, and any antiquary or curious person may have access to it.

I intend to publish a general account of it in the *Monthly Review* and your Magazine, if I can get Sir Robert's leave; and I think I shall easily procure it, as he is a friend to both those publications. . . .

Mr. Lewis had been reading an ancient MS. in vellum, written in 1260, and originally belonged to the priory of Otterton. It was a Costumale, or ledger-book, of the priory, in the hand-writing of a monk who was sent hither by the abbot of St. Michael de Monte in Normandy, to which Otterton was a cell, before it was annexed to Sion, after its alienation. A fair transcript from the original is in Chapple's collection, with explanatory notes, and will greatly assist the antiquary in the history of that priory, and of its dependencies.

S. Badcock.

Ottery St. Mary.

[1819, *Part I., p.* 297.]

The accompanying view of the remarkable Church of Ottery St. Mary, Devonshire (see Plate I.), is from the elegant pencil of the late William Alexander, Esq., F.S.A., whose talents and virtues you have so justly commended in vol. lxxxvi., ii., pp. 279, 369.

The following particulars are extracted from the "Beauties of England and Wales":

"Ottery St. Mary is a large, irregular market town, deriving its name from the river Otter, and the dedication of the church to

St. Mary. Edward the Confessor, or Earl Otho,* gave the manor to the Cathedral of St. Mary at Rouen, in Normandy; but in the reign of Edward III. the Dean and Chapter, with the king's permission, sold it to Grandison, Bishop of Exeter, who founded a college in the parochial church here, 'for a warden, eight prebendaries, ten vicars, a master of music, a master of grammar, two parish priests, eight secondaries, eight choristers, and two clerks.'† At the Dissolution the endowments were valued at £338 2s. 9d., and the site of the college was granted by Henry VIII. to Edward Earl of Hertford.‡ The chief part of the manor now belongs to Sir George Yonge.

"The situation of this town is extremely pleasant and healthy. The principal building is the church, which is very large, and has many singularities in its construction. On each side is a square tower, opening into the body of the church, and forming two transepts, as in Exeter Cathedral. The towers are furnished with pinnacles and open battlements, that on the north has also a small spire. At the north-west corner is a richly-ornamented chapel, built by Bishop Grandison, the roof of which is covered with highly-wrought fan-shaped tracery. The interior of the Church is sadly neglected; many of the monuments are broken, and various parts filled up with lumber. The altar-screen is of stone, finely carved into niches and tabernacle work, but this is partially covered with boards and painted. On the south side of the communion table are three stone seats, rising one above another. Most of the windows are narrow and lancet-shaped."

In 1811 Ottery St. Mary contained 583 houses and 2,880 inhabitants.

Yours, etc., S. R. N.

[1794, *Part I., p.* 104.]

The monument described, p. 17, by J. P. M. [see Chesterfield, Derby] is very much like two of the same complexion in the church of Ottery St. Mary. Risdon and Prince, the once famous historians of Devonshire, tell us that the horizontal figures under the cupola were Knights Templars. They certainly might have been the representatives of one of the orders, though the leg be not crossed; but, from every record on paper and information, from the situation of these emblems, and the scattered shields of Grandison, who, in some former century was Bishop of Exeter and enjoyed a tithing in and lived within a mile of Ottery St. Mary, it may reasonably be supposed that these are cenotaphs erected in honour of his father and mother. They are placed in parallel directions, and one is evidently the figure of a woman. No doubt but the arch which J. P. M. mentions covers the representatives of such as were formerly persons of distinction.

S. F.

* Dugdale's "Monasticon," ii., p. 1. † Tanner's "Notitia." ‡ *Ibid.*

[1794, *Part I., pp.* 224, 225.]

My notes, taken at Ottery St. Mary 1765, describe the monuments referred to by your correspondent S. F. as "under the second north arch from the organ, a heavy Gothic arch, on a freestone altar-tomb, an armed knight, his arms crossed, and sword drawn in his right hand, a double-tailed lion at his feet, and, in the arch over him, roses in shields. Opposite to this, a similar monument with a woman, having two dogs at her feet and two angels at her head." Risdon thus describes them, p. 32: "In the body of the church, betwixt two pillars, arched pyramid-wise, is the proportion of a man cut in stone, and cap-à-pie, with a lion couchant at his feet. Opposite hereunto, between two pillars, semblably arched, is laid the proportion of a man curiously cut in stone, some time since fairly adorned with coat-armoury; but now defaced by time. Tradition sayeth (for neither of them have any inscription) that one of them was to the memory of William Grandison, father of the bishop; the other to the honour of Sibyl, his wife, mother to the bishop, one of the co-heirs of John Tregoze, of Castle Ewias, in Herefordshire, whom he married by the favour of the Earl of Lancaster, with whom he came into England; and under a spacious marble almost covered with brass, yet the inscription stole away, lieth one Grandison interred, a near kinsman to the aforesaid bishop" (p. 33). . . .

S. F.'s cupola is either the arch of the church, or the canopy of the monument. Knights Templars neither of the figures represent; what other orders S. F. conceives it is impossible to say, or what he means by records on paper or by emblems. The shields of Grandison are in other parts of this church, which was made collegiate 1337 by Bishop Grandison, who S. F. might have easily known was Bishop of Exeter from 1327 to 1362. He should have told us where Mr. Prince mentioned these monuments, for he has not an article for Grandison. For "representatives," in the following paragraph, we must read "remains." The brass figure mentioned by Risdon lay, 1765, in the chancel, and had a mutilated inscription, without a name, for a dean and chancellor. D. H.

Plympton St. Maurice.

[1830, *Part I., pp.* 300-303.]

Plympton St. Maurice, commonly called Plympton Maurice, or Plympton Earls, is a borough and market town, situated in a fertile vale, 40 miles south-west of Exeter and 5 east of Plymouth, being nearly two miles from the river Plym, whence it derives its name. It contains about 100 houses, arranged principally into two streets, crossing each other somewhat in the form of the letter T. The inhabitants are computed at 700.

The buildings of interest are the church, guildhall, and grammar school, and the ruins of a castle on the north. The Calvinists have also a small meeting-house.

The guildhall is a large and by no means inelegant structure, standing on granite pillars; against the front are two small niches, one containing the arms of Sir Hugh Trevor, Knt., with the date 1696; the other is vacant. The dining-room is ornamented with the portraits of George I. and George II., Sir Joshua Reynolds (by himself), and several members of the corporation.

The grammar school is a little to the south-east of the church, and is a stately edifice in the Gothic style, supported by an extensive piazza. It was founded in the middle of the seventeenth century by Elizeus Hele, Esq., for the education of the youth belonging to the hundred of Plympton,* and was built by his executors in 1664. In the master's house adjoining Sir Joshua Reynolds was born in 1723, his father being at that time master of the school.

In the principal street are several old houses standing on piazzas, called the "Penthouse," underneath which the pigmy market is held on Fridays. Tradition says the greater part of the town, when in the meridian of its mercantile grandeur, was built in the same manner.

On the north side of the town are the ruins of a castle. The keep, which was circular, stood on an artificial hill 60 feet high. A part of the outer wall only is now remaining. This is of great thickness, and is about 20 feet high in the highest part; two apertures (apparently flues) a foot square, run through it, several feet from each other. This hill has obviously sunk in the centre, certainly confirming the report of its being hollow, and communicating with the Priory of Plympton St. Mary. The green is in the form of an amphitheatre, and is surrounded by a deep fosse, which once communicated with the Plym, though, by means of embankments, this river has for centuries ceased to fill it with its waters. The sides are considerably elevated above the middle, and are planted with trees, affording an agreeable walk for the inhabitants.

This castle was the residence of De Redvers, Earl of Devon, who was Baron of Plympton, of whom many of the neighbouring gentry held lands in castle-guard; among whom was his castellan, named De Plympton, whose son assumed the name of his estate, De Newenham. An heiress of this family in the reign of Henry II. was married to Adam le Stroud,† whose descendants still retain it; a singular circumstance, that they should be the only family which still hold the lands originally granted to their ancestors, when even the ownership of the castle has long since passed from the family of

* The hundred of Plympton comprises the parishes of Plympton St. Mary, Plympton Shaugh, Plymstock, Wembury, Brixton, and Yealmton.

† Now spelt Strode.

its ancient lords, and many of their offspring are obliged "to earn their bread by the sweat of their brow."

On the extinction of the family of De Redvers in the male line, by the death of Baldwin, eighth Earl of Devon, without issue, in the reign of Edward I., the barony of Plympton, together with the earldom, became the property of his sister, the Lady Isabella, wife of William de Fortibus, Earl of Albemarle; she likewise dying issueless, her titles and extensive domains passed to Hugh Courtney, her cousin, Baron of Oakhampton, the son and heir of Mary, eldest daughter of William, surnamed De Vernon from his birthplace, by her first husband, Sir Robert Courtney, Knt. This Hugh at first neglected to assume the dignity and functions of Earl of Devon, until compelled to do so by the King. He died in the reign of Edward III. After a series of forfeitures and restorations this title finally passed from the Courtney family by the death (generally supposed by poison) of Edward, son of Henry, created Marquis of Exeter by Henry VIII. This Henry was attainted and beheaded in 1538, and his titles and estates forfeited to the Crown; but Mary restored the earldom to Edward, she being greatly attached to him. He died unmarried at Padua in 1556. His possessions were divided among his nearest relatives, who were the descendants of the four sisters of his great-grandfather. This castle, after passing through various families, was purchased some years ago by the present Earl of Morley, of Admiral Palmer, of Whitehall, in this parish. This gentleman has since left the neighbourhood.

The church is dedicated to St. Maurice, and was originally founded as a chantry chapel by John Brackley, Esq. It consists of a nave, chancel, and two aisles, with a neat tower at the west end. The interior is plain, and the aisles are separated by obtuse arches. The walls were formerly decorated with scriptural sentences, adorned with angels, etc.; but about three years since, when the church was whitewashed, they were defaced, though they can still be distinctly traced. This practice is unfortunately too common, and cannot be too severely reprobated.

The pulpit was erected in 1670, and is neatly divided into small panels. The font, which is ancient, is surmounted by a modern wooden cover. In the south aisle is an ancient seat, on which is rudely carved the figure of a man bearing a cross. Near this, on the wall, is an unassuming monument, containing the following inscription, in Roman capitals:

"Sacred to the memory of Lieutenant Thomas William Jones, son of Mr. Richard Jones, surgeon of this place, commander of his Majesty's schooner Alphea, of ten guns and forty men. She was blown up in a night action with the French privateer Le Reynard, of fourteen guns and fifty men, near the Start Point, on the ninth of September MDCCCXIII.; when, after an obstinate contest of two hours and a half, the enemy having made two unsuccessful attempts to board, were, according to their own account, clearly overpowered. This monument is erected

by the family of Lieutenant Jones, in affectionate remembrance of an amiable relative, and in grateful respect to the loyalty and valour of those who supported him in that memorable conflict."

On the floor in the eastern end of the same aisle is the inscription following, in black letter:

"Will. Snelling, Gent. twise Maior of this towne: he died the xx day of Nouember, 1624. . . ."

On each side the entrance of the chancel is an opening, looking into either aisle, through which the people might see the host elevated. On the south side of the altar is an old tablet, with this inscription:

"Hic situs est Thomas Browne, hujus ecclesiæ Min. et scholæ vicinæ Præceptor, in agro Eborac: natus, in coll. ædis X'ti apud Cant: educatus, eximia doctrina, morum suavitate, et dexteritate instruendi, nemini secundus Objit dec: oct: die Maii MDCXCVIII. Mariti memoriæ sacrum hoc marmor sepulchrale vxor posuit."

Near it is a white marble slab to the memory of Katherine Kite, who died in May, 1811, aged 69, and William Kite, gent., her husband, who died in October, 1815, aged 70.

Also a wooden tablet, with the following:

"Mem. anno Dom. 1687.

"That Mrs. Mary Moulton of this parish, the widdow of Edward Moulton, Gent. (out of her pious bounty) gave the rents of one feild called Hilly Feild to the poor of this parish, to be distributed yearly on the 25th of December. And alsoe gave the rents and profits of another feild, commonly called Pryor's Parke, scituate in the parish of Plimpton St. Mary, unto the minister and poor of y's parish, to be divided eqvally between them. And did likewise give the rents and profits of another feild commonly called Horsman's Meadow, scituate within this parish, unto the minister and ministers that shall actually serue the cure within this parish, for ever."

On the opposite side is another of minor donations, and a neat white marble monument to the memory of Lucy, youngest daughter of Admiral Forster, of this town, who died February 1, 1826, aged 11 years and 7 months.

In the north aisle is a handsome monument:

"Sacred to the memory of Rowland Cotton, Esq., Vice-Admiral of the Blue, and Commander in Chief of his Majesty's ships and vessels in Plymouth Port, son of the late Sir Lynch Cotton, Bart. of Combermere Abbey, in the county of Chester, who died the 30th day of November, 1793, in the 53d year of his age."

There are likewise two tablets commemorative of Mrs. Frances Full, who died October 29, 1803, aged 73, and Miss Charlotta Lofter, who died in April, 1811, aged 52.

On the floor is a stone, with this inscription, nearly obliterated, round the margin:

"Credo: I beleeve that although after my skinne worms destroy this body, yet in my flesh shall I see God.—Iob, xix. 26. . . ."

There are many monumental inscriptions on the floor in the body of the church, chiefly at the entrance of the chancel, but they are either much mutilated or covered by the pews.

In the fretwork of the windows are some remnants of painted glass.

In the churchyard are a few tombs, but of no interest to the tourist. One, however, on the north records the name of the Rev. Robert Forster, who was above forty years minister of the parish. He died in 1800, aged 70.

At the north-east of the town is a large, square, heavy-looking brick mansion, with the north and south fronts of bath-stone. It was built in the early part of the last century, by Mr. Secretary Treby,* and is commonly known by the name of the "Great House." Though uninhabited,† it contains many good portraits of the Treby family.

The parish was taken out of Plympton St. Mary, and is probably the smallest in the kingdom, as it scarcely contains 150 acres. Plympton is one of the four stannary towns‡ appertaining to the tin-mines of Devon. It is a place of great antiquity, and formerly of much commercial importance. It was first incorporated by Baldwyn de Redvers, Earl of Devon, in 1242, who granted it the same privileges that Exeter then enjoyed, together with the fairs, markets, etc., reserving a yearly rent of £24 2s. 3d. Its incorporation was many years previous to that of Plymouth, the recollection of which is preserved in the following distich:

> "Plympton was a borough town,
> When Plymouth was a furzy down."

It is now of little consequence. The Plym, which anciently flowed up to the castle walls, now approaches no nearer than a mile and a half, and the turnpike road is more than a quarter of a mile distant. Its market, from being the first in the county, has dwindled down to two or three butchers' stalls. It has, however, several cattle-fairs in the year, generally well attended; and still continues to send representatives to Parliament, which it has done ever since the reign of Edward I. The freemen are chiefly non-resident.

JOSEPH CHATTAWAY.

Plympton St. Mary.

[1829, *Part I., pp.* 512-514.]

Plympton St. Mary, "so caullid by-cause the Chirch there is dedicate onto Our Lady," is one of the most extensive parishes in the county.

* He was secretary to Charles II.

† The present Mr. Treby resides at Goodamoor, in Plympton St. Mary, about three miles distant.

‡ These are Tavistock, Chagford, Ashburton, and Plympton.

It contains nearly 12,000 acres, including the commons and waste lands. The population is estimated at 2,000.

The church is pleasantly situated near the turnpike road, in a valley between the villages of Ridgeway and Underwood, about half a mile from the borough of Plympton, and five miles from Plymouth. It consists of a nave, chancel, and two aisles, with a transept in the south, and a chapel in the north aisle. This latter is called the "Strode's aisle," and was erected by one of the Strodes of Newenham in this parish. The church is built of hewn granite, and embattled, supported at equal distances by strong buttresses, terminating in slender pinnacles; between each is a grotesque head, for the purpose of a water-spout. The Strodes' aisle, evidently an addition, is built of rough slates, and greatly disfigures the appearance of the north side of the church.* Against the south porch are two niches, in each of which is a kneeling figure. Above is a third, containing the representation of the Trinity. The Father seated on a throne, with a triple crown on His head, holds the Son extended on a cross between His knees; the dove is broken off. The roof of the porch is beautifully groined; in the centre is the crucifixion. Above the door that leads into the church are three small niches of elegant workmanship, which appear to have once contained images. Over this porch are two small chambers, which are ascended by means of a spiral stone staircase. The tower at the western end contains six musical bells. It seems to be a later erection than the church. The interior is plain, but the aisles are lofty and spacious, supported by arches in the Pointed style. In the windows are numerous fragments of painted glass, some of which are very beautiful; and in one in the north aisle, is an inscription which I cannot decipher. The font consists of an octangular basin and shaft of granite, raised on a single step of the same stone, and adorned with the usual Gothic ornaments. In the chancel are the priests' stalls and a recess, in which the cruets were placed during the celebration of mass. There are two others in the church, one in the transept, now partly hid by a pew, the other in the "Strodes' aisle." At the entrance of the chancel is a beautiful monument to the memory of Lord Boringdon, the eldest son of the Earl of Morley, whose death was occasioned by swallowing an ear of rye. On a pedestal of black marble, raised on three steps of the same, is a pillar of white marble, surmounted by an urn, on which, as emblematical of his death, is depicted a rose borne down by an ear of corn. On each side of this pillar is a cherub; one, in

* I am very happy to say that the minister, the Rev. W. Coppard, in the most praiseworthy manner endeavours to preserve this elegant edifice in its pristine beauty. Some years since it was found necessary to strengthen the walls of the above-named chapel, then overgrown with ivy, with buttresses, which was accordingly done, and the ivy was of course destroyed. This gentleman has, however, planted ivy, and trained it on the walls, so that in a few years we may expect it again to assume its picturesque appearance.

the attitude of deep grief, has its eyes fixed on the ground ; the other, of resignation, with uplifted hands, looks attentively towards heaven. Immediately below the urn is a medallion of his lordship, and underneath the following elegant inscription :

"The Right Hon. Henry Villiers Parker, Viscount Boringdon, eldest son of John Earl of Morley, and Augusta, 2nd daughter of John Earl of Westmorland, born in London 28th May, 1806 ; died at St. Maudè, near Paris, 1st Nov., 1817, aged 11 years and 5 months.

"His death was occasioned by having, on the preceding 21st of July, incautiously taken into his mouth an ear of rye, which passed into the windpipe, and was found after its fatal effects were completed, entire and unchanged in the substance of the lowermost part of the lungs."

Near this is a neat tablet to the memory of his sister the Lady Caroline A. Parker, and on the opposite side of the chancel is the monument of his great-uncle, who died in 1746, aged twelve years. On the pavement are three monumental stones ; on the first is this inscription in black letter round the edge :

"Here lyeth bvried John Slannynge, of Ley, gentleman, who dyed March —, Anno D'm. 1632, Anno Ætatis 66."

Round the edge of the second, which is close to the former :

"Here lyeth the body of William Woolcombe, late of Challoneysleigh, in Plymton Mary, gentleman, who changed this life for a better 1st daye of Maye, in the yeere of our lord God 1655. . . ."

Round the edge of the third, which lies at a short distance from the former two :

"Here lyeth the body of Samvel Colepres, gent. who changed this * * * Anno Domini 16** ætatis suæ 24."

At the eastern end of the south aisle is an ancient tomb in the wall, on which is the effigy of a warrior ; the arms, which appear to have crossed on the breast, are broken off. The tomb itself is richly carved ; but the beauty is much defaced by the numerous coats of whitewash, that have been liberally bestowed on it from time to time. It is uncertain to whom this was erected, as there is neither inscription nor date to inform us ; but it is likely, from the armorial bearings, to be one of the Courtenay family, who most probably was a benefactor to the Priory, as they were for ages Earls of Devon ; and, according to Leland, "there were buryed sum of Courteneis, and diverse other gentilmen, in the Church of the Priory of Plymtoun."

In the Strodes' aisle is a similar monument, but much mutilated. At the feet of the knight are the fragments of a falcon, and in a small niche on each side is the figure of a monk. I should think it was likely that this was erected to the founder of the chapel. Opposite to this is the monument of the celebrated Sir William Strode, who is said to have been slain in a private quarrel.* It is

* Tradition says, this was occasioned by a peacock belonging to a neighbouring gentleman named Warring (from whom the writer of this is descended), getting into his grounds, which he refused to deliver up again, as the owner was a Royalist.

divided into three compartments (in which is the figure of Sir William and his two wives), supported by Ionic columns. The inscription is defaced, but Prince has preserved it in his "Worthies of Devon," which is as follows [omitted].

Above the compartments is the epitaph of each individual; these are in good preservation, but are only to be read by the aid of a ladder. . . .

Under the first wife are busts of several children, while under the second is Death with a sickle, in the act of cutting down a flower, which is caught by a hand from a cloud; behind, the sky is seen bespangled with stars.

On the floor in the same aisle is a stone elevated about a couple of inches above the surface, on which are the following inscriptions:

"Here lyes the body of SYDNEY Strode of Newnham, Esqr. obiit in the year of his age 37, of ovr Lord 1721."

"Also Anne Strode his wif, davghter of Sir Nicholas Trevanion of Com' Cornu', objit in the year of her age 27, of ovr Lord 1723."

The other monuments, with the exception of two or three,* deserve little notice, as the inscriptions merely consist of the name, age, etc., of the deceased.

In the churchyard are several ancient tombs; but the inscriptions on all are nearly illegible.

The remains of the Priory are in an orchard adjoining, and are very inconsiderable; the principal part is converted into a dwelling-house, which still retains traces of antiquity. Near the front door is a stone, with the arms of the Bishop of Exeter. Underneath the house is a subterranean groined, vaulted passage, communicating, according to tradition, with Plympton Castle. It is stopped up by a wall, at a short distance from the house, but is sufficiently broad to admit one person with ease. Many legends are told concerning it; among others, it is said that a cat put into a hole in the castle keep, came out in the Priory cellar. This appears to have been used as a chapel; it extends the whole length of the building, directly east and west. On the south are three filled-up small lancet windows, with the remains of fresco painting round them. The room only receives light from a modern opening at the west end.

The entrance to the back yard is through an ancient arched doorway. The other remains consist of fragments of carved stone, but so broken that no idea can be formed of their use, walls, etc. An arched gateway, now stopped up, leading to the churchyard, appears

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The consequence was, the latter assembled his tenants to recover it by force of arms; a battle took place, which ended in Strode's death. The field in which it was fought is still called Man's Blood; that in which the Peacock was taken, Peacockfond Meadow.

* These are to the memory of William Symmons, Esq., of Chaddlewood, in this parish, Capt. Strode, and the Hon. Mrs. Arbuthnot.

to have been the entrance from the Priory to the church. Near it, in the wall, is the fragment of a pillar.

Information respecting the history of this monastery is scanty. The Prebendaries of a free chapel founded by one of the Saxon kings, according to Leland, greatly offended William Warlewast, Bishop of Exeter, in the reign of Henry I., for refusing to put away their wives (another copy calls them concubines) in compliance with orders of the Roman Pontiff. He dissolved their body, and established a priory of canons regular of Black Augustines, which he dedicated to St. Peter and St. Paul. As the infirmities of age increased, the prelate retired to this monastery, and spent the remainder of his life in solitude. He was buried in the chapter-house, as was his nephew William, also Bishop of Exeter.

At the suppression it was valued at £912 10s. 8d. a year. The site, with the demesnes, was granted to Arthur Champernowne, and passed to the Strodes by purchase. It afterwards belonged to one Fownes, a merchant, whose descendants retained it till within the last few years, when it was sold off in parts.

JOSEPH CHATTAWAY.

[1831, *Part II.*, *pp.* 489-491.]

My attention has been for some time directed to the history of the church of Plympton St. Mary; and, from my constant residence in the parish, I have an opportunity of obtaining information upon some points which Mr. Chattaway has not noticed.

The church, which stands in the cemetery of the adjacent priory, is a fine specimen of perpendicular English architecture, between the periods of 1350 and 1450. It is generally uniform, though there are some vestiges about it of a much earlier date. The buttresses at the eastern end of the chancel are Early English of about 1220, and a piscina in the south-east wall of the exterior north aisle, called the Strodes' aisle, is of about 1300. The church consists of a nave and chancel, two aisles on each side, and a tower at the western extremity of the nave. The nave opens into a north and south aisle, of the same length, through seven pointed arches on each side, supported by piers composed of four shafts, two fifths engaged, having a fillet and hollow half as large as the shafts between them. Each of these aisles opens into an exterior aisle through three pointed arches, supported by piers similar to those already described. All the arches have reversed ogee mouldings. The nave formerly opened into the tower through a lofty pointed arch, which is filled up with a thin partition. The dimensions of the edifice being much larger than the generality of country churches, I give them as follow. The whole length of the interior is 147 feet, the whole width 90 feet.

	Length.	Width.
The nave - - -	105 - -	19 6
North aisle - - -	105 - -	18 6
South aisle - - -	105 - -	18 6
Chancel - - - -	23 - -	18 6
Tower - - - -	19 - -	16 0
Exterior north aisle - -	54 9 - -	16 4
Exterior south aisle - -	60 - -	17 4

The roofs being all parallel, and the length being considerably greater than the width, the term aisle appears to be more appropriate than that of a "transept"; therefore, by way of distinction, I have said exterior aisles. The author of the letter alluded to, observes that "the Strodes' aisle, evidently an addition, was erected by one of the Strodes of Newnham."

The Strode family is decidedly the oldest extant in this parish; their early and highly respectable descent may be seen in Prince's "Worthies of Devon," as well as in ancient family records; but it seems that the aisle in question was not built by them.* I have been favoured with a sight of the will of Richard Strode, Esq., of Newnham, dated 1462, in which he desires to be buried in the Church of the Blessed Mary of Plympton, "in Gilda St. Katerine;" by which it may be inferred that this aisle was erected by some Company or Gild of Trade, and, judging from parts of the architecture, at a much earlier period than that in which he lived: besides, he ordered a window of Roborough stone to be made, *de novo*, in the north-east corner of this "Gilda St. Katerine," which window he dedicated to St. Sidwell; he also desired a new tomb to be made there, in an arch in the wall, under the window. The lower part of this tomb has been concealed under ground, in consequence of the pavement of this aisle having been raised to a level with the floor of the church. I have lately had the earth removed from it, and a step has been made down to the base. In doing this, thirteen full-length figures, in canopied niches, have been brought to light. That in the centre is a representation of the Trinity; the Father, with the cross before Him, and the Dove above it, are nearly perfect. Of the twelve other figures, the first, third, seventh, ninth, and eleventh, are monks, each holding a rosary, and having their heads covered with their cowls. The second, third, eighth, and tenth, are saints—St. Paul, with his sword; St. Katherine, with her book, sword, and

* It is probable that this aisle was appropriated to the Strode family at the time of the Reformation, when the guilds ceased to bear the name of saints; or it may have been so called in consequence of their having buried in it for many years; and although the family have long discontinued to occupy a seat there, one still remains, bearing the armorial escutcheons of Strode on its oaken panels, which belongs to Old Newnham, though by a private arrangement it has been exchanged, *pro tempore*, to accommodate the tenant.

wheel; St. Mary with the Holy Infant and a lily; and St. John the Evangelist with a winged serpent rising from a cup. The fifth figure placed as it were at the right hand of the Godhead, displays an open book, and from his shaven head, appears to be a priest; he may perhaps be regarded as a representation of the cantarist placed to sing masses at this spot; as may the monks as the occupants of the neighbouring monastery. On clearing away the plaster and whitewash, we find that the figures in the side niches which your former correspondent described as "monks," are two of the four Evangelists, the other two having been buried. That your readers may form some idea of the character of the tomb, I have sent you a sketch of it, upon a scale of half an inch to a foot. I have added an extract from the above-mentioned will, having the kind permission of George Strode, Esq., the present worthy representative of the family, to do so. It is a very interesting document, clearly elucidating the doubt expressed by your correspondent as to whose memory the tomb was erected; and it shows the style of window of that period, and the materials then in use. According to the instructions in the will, the tomb is made of Beer* stone, and the window is of Roborough granite.

Richard Strode, Esq., his Will, Oct. 12, 1464.

"In Dei nom. Amen. Ego Ric'us Strode, Armiger, xii^mo die mensis Octobris anno D'ni millessimo cccc^mo sexagesimo quarto, condo testamentum meum in hunc modum. In primis lego a'i'am mea' Deo om'ipotenti, Corpus meu' ad sepeliend' in eccl'ia beate Marie de Plympton in Gilda S'te Katerine ib'm juxta cornu altaris in boreali parte coram imagine' S'te Katerine. Item, volo q^d habend'm unum ydoneu' et honestum Sacerdotem celebrantem et orantem pro a'i'ab's patris mei, matris mee, et Margarete uxoris mee, ac Joh'is Strode filii mei et aliorum liberor' meor' et amicor', per unu' annu' duratur, in Gilda p'dicta. Item lego Gilde S'te Katerine xii*d.* . . . Item lego ad lumen be' Marie ib'm arden' coram ymagine' xii*d.* . . . Item volo q'd heredes mei vel executores mei faciant una' nova' crucem juxta parvam portam vocat' Porstern yate ib'm in viridi loco in honore' D'ni n'ri Jh'u Xri. et crux† illa sic facta vocat' Crux R'c'i Strode de Nywenh'm, Armig'. . . . Item volo q'd ffeofati mei, heredes mei, vel executores mei, faciant de novo unam novam fenestram de Rowburghstone in Gilda S'te Katerine in boreali et

* This stone resembles Portland stone. It rises in similar blocks. "This stratum of freestone is found generally to occur under all the chalk cliffs from Branscombe to Lyme Regis in Dorsetshire" (Vancouver's "Survey of Devon").

† There are no remains of this cross, and I am sorry to say that the painted glass in this window has fallen a sacrifice to the ravages of time. In other parts of the church a few specimens of painted glass remain, which have been cleaned and carefully replaced in the windows recently repaired. Eleven have been restored with granite mullions, and the original mouldings strictly adhered to.

orientali parte cornu altaris ib'm in honore' S'te Sativole virginis, et unum vitrum ib'm de vita S'te Sativole virginis cum armis meis ib'm infixis in optimo modo. Item volo habere subter eand'm fenestr'm quand'm tumbam sub arcu claus' in pariete ib'm fact' de petra vocat' vulgariter Bere Stone vel alias de petra vulgariter vocat' Rowburgh Stone, et supra hanc tumbam unam petram de marbill in picturâ cum armis meis ad quodl't cornu ejusdem petre, cum istis verbis scriptis insculptis, videl't, Hic jacet R'c'us Strode de Aywenh'm, Armig' ; et in inferiore parte dicte vitrie finestre meipsum armatum cum tunica armor' de armis meis mecu'q' meos sex filios, et versus me Margareta' que fuit uxor mea et filia Henrici ffortescu, armig'r', armata' sive vestita' cum tunica armorum patris ejusdem Margarete, cum suis tribus filiabus in eadem fenestra. . . . Item lego d'no Mychett curato p'och xiid. . . . Dat die et anno sup'dat'."

The tower of the church is a beautiful object in the picturesque scenery around; the height of it is 108 feet. At each corner are two square buttresses of three stages, with plain set-offs; the upper stages have triangular heads crocketed, terminating on an octagonal embattled turret, with a bold crocketed pinnacle, which rises about 25 feet above the battlements of the tower. There are six mellow-toned bells: the tenor is said to be 6,000 lb. weight: the inscription on it is:

"M : MARIE : STRODE : THE : FOVNDER : OF : THI : SBELL : ANNO : DOMINI 1614 . GP."

The buttresses on the southern side of the church are of three stages with plain set-offs, and have octagonal embattled turrets, empanelled, with trefoil heads, surmounted with crocketed pinnacles. The base mouldings consist of two tablets, an ogee and hollow, and plain slope.

The south porch is 12 feet square, and is under a neat tower, having two rooms, one over the other, above the porch. On the exterior are three niches, the upper one containing an emblem of the Trinity, like that already described; the figures in those beneath represent the Annunciation, the angel Gabriel occupying that on the left, and the Virgin the other. Over the entrance, on a granite stone, is the crest of the Strode family; the tree, and a part of the wreath and helmet, may still be distinguished, although it is much worn. The groining of the ceiling of this porch is of Roborough stone; it is peculiar, as it forms a double square; the design and workmanship are very good, the ribs spring from demi-angels holding plain shields.

I would mention one more point, perhaps too vaguely noticed by your correspondent. He says, "the font is octangular, with the usual Gothic ornaments." It is a very neat octagonal font of solid granite, four feet high, standing upon a wide octagonal step one foot deep: each face of the upper part is one foot square, ornamented

with quatrefoils and plain shields in the middle. The shaft is slender, octagonal, panelled, with trefoil heads.

In the south-east wall of the chancel are three stalls or sedilia; that on the west is a foot lower than the other two; they have narrow pointed arches cinquefoiled, slender octagonal shafts with plain bands for capitals; the whole surmounted with a plain horizontal dripstone. In the corner to the east of these is a *piscina*, with ogee canopy, cinquefoiled, and a dripstone terminating with a neat finial of four leaves reversed.

About twenty-five years ago, an ancient stone pulpit, panelled and carved, stood in the nave; it was affixed to the second pier from the chancel, on the north side. Spiral stone steps led up to it, and it stood upon a stone pedestal. At that time the church was new seated, and it was thought necessary to alter the position of the pulpit, which was taken down, *broken to pieces*, and put under the sleepers of the flooring of the new pews!

Yours, etc., WILLIAM I. COPPARD.

Plymouth.

[1791, *Part II., p.* 1098.]

I send you from St. Andrew's Church, Plymouth (Pl. III., fig. 5), a sketch of the upper lid of a stone coffin, which lies near the south entrance of St. Andrew's Church. From the figure on the stone it may be conjectured to have been the lid of a coffin of some of the priors of Plympton Priory, to whom St. Andrew's was impropriate, and who, before the incorporation of Plymouth, 18 Henry VI., were sole lords of the manor of Sutton Parva, now called Plymouth, and were frequently buried in St. Andrew's Church.

Powderham.

[1799, *Part II., p.* 1113.]

I send you a slight view (Plate II.) of Powderham Castle, in Devonshire, the seat of Lord Courtenay, and a pile of the greatest antiquity and consequence in that county. For its ancient history, I refer your readers to Leland and Camden; and for its modern state, to Mr. Polwhele's "History," vol. ii., p. 170; who tells us that, in 1717, a neat chapel in the north wing was re-built and beautified; over which was a well-furnished library; that, in 1752 (when Chapple drew up some account of this castle for Brice's "Topographical Dictionary"), the building for the most part retained the castellated form; and that the present noble owner has "greatly improved and ornamented the house; having, among other alterations, converted the chapel into a very elegant drawing-room." . . .

Mr. Polwhele, p. 169, says:

"Camden's assertion, that Powderham Castle was built by Isabella de Fortibus, is doubtless erroneous; for, neither Isabella, nor any of the earls of Devon of the family of Rivers were possessed of Powderham."

Yet, p. 179:

"In a window in the North aisle lies a stone image of a female figure, said to be Isabella de Fortibus."

There is no other doubt expressed of this being her monument than is implied in the words "said to be." . . . A TRAVELLER.

[1800, *Part II.*, *pp.* 617, 618.]

In vol. lxix., p. 1113, a print is given of what an ingenious Traveller is pleased to call "a slight view" of Powderham Castle, in Devon, the seat of Lord Courtenay. . . . What the intention of the Traveller may have been, in sending you a sketch of a place which bears not the faintest resemblance to it, I cannot conjecture. . . . Though by no means accurate, yet I perceive somewhat of a likeness with the edifice at Hartland, which is a structure of Gothic architecture, and uniform in a consistency of style and elegance. This, however, is not the case at Powderham Castle. On an approach towards it in front (of which I enclose you also a *slight* but accurate sketch), the eye is at once arrested by the vastness of the pile, and by the multiplicity of parts which, at different periods, have been added to the original mass, and now form one whole. . . . An excrescence of late has grown out of the northern angle from the designs of Mr. Wyatt (the Cynosure of Gothic architecture), the plan of which has also been conceived by many (haply also of the hypercritic tribe!) to be not less injudicious than the situation. In this opinion, however, I cannot bring myself to coincide. The drawing-room (what *was* the chapel) presented to the north a blank wall and a recess; of course, on this side there was wanting somewhat to arrest and satisfy the eye. The building which has been erected does both. The vacant space is filled up, and that with an object decidedly beautiful. . . .

Of this castle there are aspects more picturesque; that from the north and west in particular. Here *were* towers of truly castellated magnificence! I say *were*, for one (in consequence of decay) has been taken down and re-erected, and, I regret to say, not with the discriminative and appropriate taste which (had he been consulted) Mr. Wyatt would have planned.

Since writing the above, it has occurred to me that Tawstock, the very beautiful seat of Sir Bourchier Wrey, in the north of Devon, has a more extended front than Hartland Abbey, with a projection at each end, as is given in the print, for which it possibly may have been designed. J. SWETE.

St. Pancras.

[1823, *Part II.*, *pp.* 577, 578.]

The following account of the Chapel of St. Pancras, near Plymouth in Devonshire, which has lately been repaired and much enlarged, may not be uninteresting to some of your readers. . . .

The accompanying views of the chapel in its former and present state, will serve to elucidate the following description. (See the plate.)

St. Pancras, or (as vulgarly called) Penny Cross,* in the tything of Weston Peverel, is a chapel of ease to St. Andrew's Plymouth, from which town it is distant about two miles and a half, and is situated on the western side of a knoll or hill, commanding a very beautiful view in that direction, terminating in the river Tamar, and the hills of Cornwall in the distance.

The date of the chapel is not known, but there is reason to believe its present site is not the one on which it originally stood; and in pulling down a part of it, the materials appeared to have been previously used in some more ancient building; but the oldest sepulchral inscription does not go beyond the latter end of the sixteenth century. It consisted of one aisle, 57 feet by 13, including the chancel at the east end, and was without ceiling, the rudely-framed timbers of the roof, and unplastered slating, carrying the imagination back to times of primitive simplicity, and even barbarism. In the east gable was, however, a handsome Gothic window of moorstone, and the west rose into a small belfry, mantled over with ivy, in which hung a single bell, of no very musical or potent sound, but which just served to call together the inhabitants of the tithing dwelling in its immediate vicinity, once a fortnight, to an afternoon service, and four times a year to a morning service, with the holy sacrament; which services were given by the minister of the adjoining parish of St. Budeaux (himself considered as a curate to the Vicar of St. Andrew's), leaving his own church at those times unserved, and which appears to have been the whole of the service ever received by St. Pancras. Being embosomed in trees, and so pleasantly situated, it altogether formed a very agreeable object to the lovers of the picturesque, and to such became every year more attractive, as it gradually approached the state of absolute ruin to which it had nearly arrived in 1820. But as another feeling might be supposed to operate upon those who attended its periodical worship (and which it is only surprising had not been sooner excited), it was at length resolved to sacrifice the "picturesque" to the safety and accommodation of the congregation; and in that year the western

* I should be much obliged to any of your correspondents who would inform me whether there is any other instances of "St. Pancras" being corrupted into "Pennycross."

half of the old building was taken down, and two aisles added, extending north and south, so as to form, with the remaining part, the figure of a cross, 53 feet by 66, east and west, each of the aisles being lighted, at their north and south ends, by a handsome Gothic window, similar to that in the east end, the three windows being composed of stained glass.

A gallery, fronted with panelling of a Gothic pattern, and supported on clustered pillars of cast iron, is raised at the west end. The whole of the ceilings are arched, and just below their springing a cornice is carried round the chapel, in accordance with the style of the other parts.

The chancel, as improved, has a very striking effect: it is now separated from the aisle by a pointed arch, supported on clustered pillars, from which spring the mouldings of the arch, as also the groins of the ceiling within, and from quarter columns in the north-east and south-east angles; on each side are tablets with the Commandments, etc., within frames, whose mouldings terminate in pointed arches of contrary flexion. The altar is enclosed by iron rails.

The pulpit is now placed on the angle formed by the junction of the north aisle with the old building, so as to command the whole area. An ancient moorstone font of octangular form, stands in the centre of the aisles, and becomes a striking object, being seen from every part of the chapel.

The whole of the wood-work is painted in imitation of dark wainscot, and the pulpit covering, altar-cloth, etc., are of crimson velvet, the whole being finished with a due regard to uniformity and simplicity of style, preserving the original Gothic character, however faintly exhibited in the old building.

It remains only to add to this description, that the western end, in which is the entrance door, projects a few feet, and rises in a small square tower, whose roof is surmounted by a cross. . . .

Yours, etc., WESTONIENSIS.

Sidbury.

[1834, *Part I., pp.* 265, 266.]

The present farm of Sand or Sonde in the parish of Sidbury, Devon, formerly made two distinct properties: Higher or Over Sand, and Lower or Nether Sand; each of which appears to have given name to its possessor. The first alone is noticed by the old county historians.

Florence (Tremayle), the widow of Nicholas Ashley, grand-daughter and heiress of the judge, Sir Thomas Tremayle, possessed Higher Sand in the first part of the sixteenth century, being heir general (through different heiresses of Farway, Trivet, Waltherm) of a family designated De Sande. Sir William Pole, in his "Collections

for the History of Devon," p. 165, says that it was "granted about Kinge Henry III. tyme unto William [and] Deodatus de Sand his sonne." Sir William Pole's authority is not to be questioned lightly; a grant, however, now in existence, from Roger Wynkelegh, Dean of Exeter, to William de Sand, and Deodatus his son and heir, only remits part of a rent charge. Florence, and her son, Robert Ashley, sold Over Sand in the year 1561, to Henry Huyshe, who was descended from a younger branch of the family of Huyshe, of Lud Huyshe and Doniford in the county of Somerset; of which see Mr. Protheroe's account, *Gentleman's Magazine*, November, 1831, vol. ci., p. 305, and December, 1831, p. 487.

Nether or Lower Sand, in the middle of the sixteenth century, was the property of Richard Rowe and Osmond Garrett, the representatives of two co-heiresses of John Walrond, of Parke, in the parish of Willand, who inherited it through heiresses of Holbein and Pyle, probably from Ælanus de Sand. It is certain that Ælanus possessed land here in 1284, for he sold a field to Deodatus de Sand in that year. Henry Huyshe purchased this part the year before his acquisition of the other. He appears to have left this to his eldest son Thomas, and Higher Sand to his son Anthony. The two brothers sold the whole to their cousin, James Huyshe, of London, third son of John Huyshe, of Doniford. James had twenty-nine children born to him by his two wives (see Stow's "London"). His eldest surviving son, Rowland, built the present house (see Plate I.), which, by the date of painted glass in the windows, must have been completed before the year 1594. It has been occupied by the farmers of the estate since the death of James Huyshe in 1724, but the property still remains in the representative of Rowland Huyshe, the writer of this. There are no memorials whatsoever of any members of the family in the church or the churchyard of Sidbury, except a mural tablet in the chancel, which bears the following inscription:

"Beneath this stone, in the burial place of their ancestors, of Sand, in this parish, are deposited the bodies of the four daughters of Francis Huysh, formerly rector of Clisthydon, and his wife Sarah, daughter of Richard Newte, of Duvah, in the parish of Bampton, who themselves closed the eyes of Elizabeth, Nov. 12, 1731, in her 21st year. Sarah, the eldest, and widow of John Thomson, rector of Mesey Hampton, in the county of Gloucester, died Jan. 2, 1794, having completed 86 years. Frances followed her sister, April 22, 1797, at the age of 82. Jane, the youngest, ended that line of the family, with her own blameless life, Oct. 23, 1803, in her 83d year. Where now is the boast, that they and their forefathers of Sand were a branch of the family of Huyshe, of Lud-Huyshe and Doniford, in the county of Somerset; and that the blood of the Plantagenets flowed in their veins, through Joan, daughter of the 1st Edward? . . ."

The drawing which I send you is from the elegant and accurate pencil of Mr. G. Holmes, formerly of Bristol, now of Plymouth.

I am, sir, your obedient servant,

FRANCIS HUYSHE.

Tavistock.

[1830, *Part I., pp.* 113-118.]

I have been favoured by Mrs. Bray, of the Vicarage House, Tavistock, whose antiquarian taste is well known by her historical romances, with the enclosed drawing of two pieces of panel in the possession of the Rev. E. A. Bray, F.S.A., her husband, relics of the ancient decorations of Tavistock Church. I beg to offer it to your miscellany, accompanied by some notes which have been collected by myself, with a view to editing an account of Tavistock Abbey and its environs. In these notes you will have little more than a skeleton or outline of such an undertaking, and whether I may ever fill them up as I could desire, must depend upon leisure and that encouragement which is necessary to every literary undertaking, which the author does not wish ultimately to prove a mulct on his zeal and exertions. Certain it is that Tavistock and its environs afford highly beautiful objects for graphic illustration, that several characters eminent in history are connected with the place, and that the parish chest is remarkably rich in ancient deeds and churchwarden's accounts, some of which I examined at Tavistock in the year 1827, but many more still remain, which I hope ere long to have an opportunity of perusing. In the meantime I shall be happy if the subsequent cursory memoranda may be found acceptable to your readers.

The church, monastic dwellings, and precinct of the Abbey of Tavistock, in Devon, were situated within a few yards of the right bank of the river Tavy, on a narrow plain, very slightly elevated above the bed of that river, and surrounded on the north, south and eastern sides by eminences.

The Tavy is a rapid stream, and has its course through a rocky channel; the depth of this river is very variable, depending much on the quantity of rain which descends from the high lands above mentioned. When this is considerable the Tavy becomes an object of much interest, from the effects of its wild and roaring waters to surmount the opposition presented to their course by the numerous fragments of rock which lie scattered in the bed of the stream.

In dry seasons the rambler may descend into the channel worn by the waters of the Tavy, where he will find beautifully picturesque combinations at every step. The blue waters of the river making their gurgling "music with the enamelled stones," dark foliage here and there overhanging the banks, the stillness of the scene perchance broken by the flight of the kingfisher, whose bright cerulean plumage flashes like a meteor across the sombre tints of the trees.*

* To obtain an idea of a Devonshire stream, in all its beauty, the traveller should visit the Walkham at Warde Bridge, about four miles from Tavistock. At this spot the stream makes its way between thickly clustering fragments of dark moss-grown rocks, and on the bank, contiguous, is an enchanting little wood,

It is most probable that the eminences surrounding Tavistock Abbey were, in remote times, thickly covered with wood;* this must have greatly heightened the beauty of the swelling uplands, which, as it were, flank the course of the river, and thus the site was admirably well chosen for a life of seclusion and holy contemplation. "Locus amœnus opportunitate nemorum, capturâ copiosâ piscium, ecclesiæ congruente fabricâ, fluvialibus rivis per officinas monachorum decurrentibus, qui suo impetu effusi quicquid invenirent superfluum portant in exitum." Such is Malmesbury's account of the beauty and conveniences of the place.†

The etymology of the name Tavistock does not appear to be of difficult solution. "The place on the Tavy" is evidently implied by the compound; but it may be observed that by early writers of the monkish age the Tavy is called the *Tau*, and that the Taw, the Towy, the Tay, and the Taf are common appellatives of many British rivers. The Tavy discharges itself into the Tamar, a few miles above Plymouth; of which last-mentioned river it may be accounted a branch. There can be little doubt, therefore, that the Tavy is an abbreviation of the British words *Tau vechan*, or the little Tau, thus distinguishing the tributary branch from the *Tau Mawr* (afterwards Tamar), the great Tau. . . .

Ordgar, Duke or Heretoch of Devon, a dignity equal to that of permanent viceroy or petty prince, founded the Abbey at this place, A.D. 961, in consequence of a remarkable vision which appeared, according to the Cartulary of Tavistock, to him and his wife. The structure was completed by his son Ordulf, about twenty years after. It was appropriated to the residence of monks of the Benedictine Order, and dedicated to St. Mary and St. Rumon.

Leland found a MS. "Life of Rumon" in Tavistock Abbey, at the time of the suppression of monasteries. He appears by this account to have been one of many saints, who emigrated from Ireland into Cornwall in the fifth or sixth century, for the purpose of enjoying the deepest seclusion, and to have erected for himself an oratory in what the author terms a Nemæan forest, formerly a most frequented haunt of wild beasts. This, according to the MS., was at Falmouth, where he died and was buried; but the fame of his sanctity still surviving, Ordulf, on completing the monastery at Tavistock, was induced to remove his bones from their resting-place, and to enshrine them in the Abbey Church, where they became an object of ignorant devotion. Malmesbury seems to lament that the miracles of Rumon

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where the oaks are seen flourishing, amidst huge masses of granite, covered with moss and lichens.

* The Exeter Domesday assigns a large proportion of wood to the manor of Tavistock.

† "Malmesbury de gestis Pontif. Angl. apud Scriptores post Bedam," p. 256.

in common with those of many other saints, owing to the violent hostility of subsequent times, remained unrecorded. . . .

In an account of Tavistock Abbey it is impossible to pass over the story of King Edgar's marriage with Elfrida, the daughter of Ordgar, the Heretoch of Devon. I shall be content to relate it in Malmesbury's own words.* [Omitted.]

To return to Ordgar, the founder of Tavistock Abbey, Malmesbury, whom we have above quoted, and who wrote in the time of King Stephen, tells us that the tomb of Ordgar was to be seen in his day, as also that of his son Edulf or Ordulf, of whose remarkable bodily strength he relates an anecdote to the following effect [omitted].

Browne Willis tells us that in his time the sepulchral effigies of this Saxon giant, of great length, were still preserved by lying under an arch in the north side of the cloisters of the abbey church. This identical arch, as I apprehend, still remains,† a solitary remnant of the immediate appendages of the abbey church. The architecture of this recess is of the time of Henry III., and as there is no example extant which can lead us to conclude that sepulchral figures were placed over tombs in the middle ages, until the twelfth century, and as it was usual to re-edify and remodel the monuments of saints and remarkable persons (of which custom the shrine of Edward the Confessor, now in Westminster Abbey, is a prominent example), Ordulf's tomb perhaps underwent a renovation about this period, and was supplied with a sepulchral effigy. In digging the foundation of the house called the Abbey-house, on the site of which the Bedford Arms Inn now stands, a remarkably rude and small sarcophagus was found, not more than three or four feet in length, containing some large bones. Two of these, each belonging to a thigh, are preserved in the parish church of Tavistock, and the larger is shown as appertaining to the body of the founder Ordgar, the smaller to that of his wife ;‡ the size of the stone chest not more than three or four feet in length, and the dissimilarity of the dimensions of the bones, seem, indeed, to countenance the idea that the perishing remains of Ordgar and his wife, as benefactors to the monastery, might have been collected by a pious care, and deposited in one common receptacle by the monks of St. Rumon. Among several interesting architectural fragments, which are preserved with the sarcophagus itself, by the good taste of the Rev. E. A. Bray, the present Vicar of Tavistock, under a Gothic arch in the vicarage garden (of which arch

* "Historia Novella," translated by Sharp, 154.

† A tolerably correct view of it is engraved in the "Antiquarian and Topographical Cabinet," vol. ii.

‡ They have been measured for me by Mr. James Cole, the sexton of Tavistock. The larger thigh-bone is 21 inches in length, 5½ in circumference; the smaller 19 in length, 4½ in circumference. If these were really the bones of Ordgar and his wife, as probably they were, it is not surprising that their son Ordulf should be tall.

more hereafter), were two fragments of stone tablets, inscribed in a delicate Roman character; one bore the legend,

"SVBIACET INTVS
. . . . CONDITOR."

The other:

"INDOLE . . . .
CONDITOR A . . . .
PRESTET ANIMA. . . ."

The last inscription may perhaps be a monitory sentence to the visitor of the founder's tomb, that he should exhibit as benevolent a disposition as Ordgar towards the abbey: "ut ille indolem sicut conditor abbatiæ nostræ præstet animam."*

Ordgar, the founder, is said to have resided at Tavistock, and the site of his house is still traditionally pointed out. . . .

The Abbey Church being completed by Ordulf, Almer became the first abbot. Ethelred, the grandson of the founder, who had succeeded to the English crown by the death of Edward the Martyr, granted a charter to the abbey,† exempting it from all secular service, except rate for military expeditions, and the repair of bridges and castles. In the preamble to this instrument he laments that certain persons, stained with infidelity, had been allowed, without his consent (he being, as it might be said, in an infant and powerless state, not more than twenty years of age), to drive the monks of Tavistock from their sacred places and possessions. This stain of infidelity was, I apprehend, nothing more than a disbelief in the sanctity of monachism, and the expulsion of the monks from church benefices, in which they were replaced by the much more deserving and useful class of ecclesiastics, the secular clergy. The success of the artifices of Dunstan in favour of the monkish order is, however, well known. The Charter contains the customary anathemas against all infringement, and is witnessed by Ethelred or Adelred, King of all Britain, Alfthrith or Elfrida his mother, Dunstan the Archbishop of Canterbury, and numerous prelates and magnates of the realm.

In the year 997 the Danish fleet, under Sweyn, entered the Severn, and having plundered and laid waste various places on the coast of Wales, Somersetshire, and Cornwall, sailed round Penwihtsteort, the Land's End, and anchoring in the mouth of the Tamar, they ravaged the country as far as Lydford, burning and slaying all before them. In this devastation the monastery

* It is with regret that I record that someone has grossly abused the kindness of the worthy vicar, who grants ready access to everyone wishing to view these relics, and has cut off all further examination of the inscriptions by carrying them away. He must be a pitiful antiquary indeed who can stoop to disgrace himself by thefts which cannot long enrich himself, and who abstracts from the pleasure and information of the public at large in a present and future age.

† See Charter of Inspeximus, Edw. III., Dugdale's "Monasticon."

of Tavistock, so lately completed by Ordulf, was plundered and consumed by fire, the Danes retiring laden with its spoils, and those of the adjacent country, to their ships.*

The abbey thus destroyed lay for some time in ruins, but was at length rebuilt, probably by the exertions and munificence of Living or Livingus, who was nephew to Brithwald, Bishop of St. German's, in Cornwall; he was at first a Monk of Winchester, afterwards Abbot of Tavistock, and in the year 1032 was consecrated Bishop of Crediton (Kirton). He was greatly in the favour of King Canute, and accompanied him in his pilgrimage to Rome. After the death of Brithwald, his uncle, he procured the See of St. German's† to be united to his own, and held them both, with the Bishopric of Worcester, to which he was promoted, until his death. A heavy accusation was brought against him of being concerned in the death of Alfred, the eldest son of King Ethelred. He was deprived of his episcopal preferments for a season, but, having cleared himself from impeachment, was restored to them, and died in the year 1046. He was interred at Tavistock Abbey, to which he had been a munificent benefactor.

Edwy Atheling, a son of Ethelred, and great-grandson of Ordgar the founder, sought a refuge, I conjecture, in Tavistock Abbey from the jealousy of Canute, as he died and was buried there about this time.

Aldred succeeded Living in his lifetime as Abbot, and at his death in the See of Worcester. In the reign of Edward the Confessor he was elevated to the See of York, and is said to have crowned William the Conqueror. He afterwards fulminated an excommunication against the king for having broken the oath taken at his coronation to dispense indiscriminate justice and favour to his English as well as his Norman subjects; but wanting that vigour of character necessary to sustain a bold step, he fell a victim to anxiety of mind, brought on by fear of the consequences of the above measure in the year 1069. Sithric appears to have succeeded him in his Abbacy of Tavistock, for he occurs as abbot 1050, and died in 1082. Next came Geoffrey, who died in 1088. Wimund followed, who appears to have abused the trust reposed in him, for Henry I., by his letters, commands the Sheriff of Devon to cause restitution to be made to his church at Tavistock of the manors of Rueberge (Roborough) and Cudelipe (Cudlip), which Wimund had unjustly delivered up to his brother.‡ Wimund was at length, in 1102,

* Saxon Chron., sub ann. 997.

† The church at St. German's is well worthy the attention of the antiquary. I have little doubt that some of its architectural parts still extant are of the time of Athelstan.

‡ These misappropriations of Church property were not uncommon. See an instance in Kempe's "Historical Notices of St. Martin-le-Grand, London," of land and houses belonging to that foundation being alienated to the sons and daughters of the officiating priest.—P. 57.

deposed for simony, and was replaced by Osbert, to whom King Henry I. granted the privilege of a weekly market, on Fridays, in the manor of Tavistock, and a fair for three days at the feast of St. Rumon. He confirmed to him and his monastery, and to Turold and their dependent monks residing in the Scilly Isles, all the churches and their land there, as they or any other monks or hermits had held them in the time of King Edward the Confessor. Reginald, Earl of Cornwall, natural son of Henry, afterwards corroborated this charter, and also granted the monks in Scilly all wreck upon those isles, excepting whales and entire ships. Osbert died in 1131, and was followed by Geoffrey, to whom succeeded de Plympton, 1141. Robert Postell, ob. 1154. Walter, monk of Winchester, who died 1174, had a charter of free warren for the abbey possessions from King Henry II. Baldwin, ob. 1183; next Stephen, then Herbert, ob. 1200. Jordon, ob. 1220. William Kermet, ob. 1224. John Capell, ob. 1233. Alan de Cornwall, ob. 1248. Robert de Kitecnoll, a monk of the foundation, succeeded; next Thomas, and then John de Northampton, ob. 1257. Philip Trenchfield, ob. 1260. Alured, the next abbot, was succeeded in 1262 by John Chubbe, who was deposed eight years after his election. Robert, ob. 1285. Robert Campbell, ob. 1325. Robert Bosse, deposed 1333. Then followed John de Courtenay, eldest son of Hugh Courtenay, Earl of Devon, ob. 1349. Richard de Ashe or Esse. Stephen de Langdon, elected 1362, ob. 1380. Thomas Cullen, ob. 1402. John Mey, ob. 1421. Thomas Mede held the abbacy till 1442, when Thomas Crispin, Prior of the Monastery, was elected; he died in 1447. William Pewe, the next abbot, died in 1450, and was followed by John Dynington or Dymyngton, who applied to the king for permission that the abbots of Tavistock should enjoy the distinction of wearing the episcopal habiliments, which was granted in the following terms, as they may be rendered from the Latin form:

"Licence for the Abbot of Tavistoke to wear the Pontificalia.

"The King, to all to whom these presents shall come, greeting: Be it known that we of our especial grace have granted and given permission for us and our heirs, as much as in us lies, to John Denynton, Abbat of the House and Church of the blessed St. Mary and St. Rumon, to solicit and have permission from the sovereign Pontiff, the present Pope, to use the mitre, amice* (almucio), sandals, and other pontifical insignia, and of blessing in the solemnity of masses, and pronouncing absolutions with the same authority, and in the same manner, as any Bishop uses.

"And that the said Abbat may likewise prosecute any other pro-

* The amice has been erroneously defined by glossarists as a cap; it was an under robe made generally of linen, covering the shoulders, and fastened by strings round the breast.—See the Rev. J. Raine's interesting and learned "Account of the finding of the body and robes of St. Cuthbert."

visions concerning the above matter, and enjoy the benefit of them for himself and his successors for ever.

"And further, we of our greater favour have granted and given licence to the said Abbat, that he may receive Apostolic Letters and Bulls for the aforesaid provisions, and all and singular therein contained, execute, read, and cause to be read, and them and every of them altogether, fully and wholly, quietly, peaceably, and without harm, according to the effect of the said letters and bulls, and each of them, may use and enjoy, forbidding that the said Abbat or his Proctors, Fautors, Councillors, Helpers, or Adherents, or any other his Solicitors, Readers, or Publishers of the said Letters and Bulls, shall be by us or our heirs impeded, disquieted, disturbed, molested or oppressed, the statutes for Provisors, Ordinations, Provisions, enacted to the contrary, or other things, causes, matters whatever, which on our or any other part may be said or alleged, notwithstanding.

"In witness whereof we have caused these our Letters to be made patent.

"Witness the King at Westminster, the third day of February" (36 Henry VI., A.D. 1457).

Yours, etc., A. J. K.

[1830, *Part I., pp.* 216-221.]

Denyngton probably made large repairs and additions to the buildings of his abbey, as most of the remains of these now extant are characterized by the deep label moulding and obtusely pointed arch which became the prevailing characteristic of Gothic architecture towards the close of the fifteenth century. The great gate of the abbey is decorated with two minarets of this period, and the parapet of its pointed roof is crenellated and embattled; certainly a misapplication of the crenellated form, and a specimen of perverted taste.

Richard followed Denyngton in 1463; Richard Yeme, or Yerne, was next elected in 1491, on whose death or secession Richard Banham became abbot; he received the temporalities of the abbey June 7, 1492, 7th Henry VII. Banham being of an ambitious character obtained for his abbey, which Denyngton had procured to be a mitred one, the further honour of a seat in the house of peers, a privilege which the circumstance of its being previously dignified by the mitre did not it seems of itself confer. It is supposed that Banham took this step in order to cope with his diocesan, Henry Oldham, Bishop of Exeter, with whom he was engaged in perpetual contests, and whose excommunication he procured from the pope, notwithstanding the worthy and useful character of the bishop.

The following is a translation of the instrument which conferred the privilege of Parliament on Banham, who enjoyed it but ten

years, and whose successor of course lost it in the next reign by the suppression of monasteries:

"Henry, by the grace of God, etc.,

"Know ye that for certain considerations especially moving us, and for the peculiar devotion which we entertain and bear towards the blessed Virgin Mary, the mother of Christ, and St. Rumon, in honour of both of whom the Abbey of Tavistock, of the foundation of the Kings of England and under our patronage, stands dedicated. Hence it arises that of our special grace, certain knowledge and mere motion, we will that the said our abbey or monastery shall enjoy the privilege and liberty of the spiritual lords of our, our heirs' and successors' Parliament. Therefore we grant for us, and for our successors, as much as in us lies, to our right dear father in Christ, Richard Banham, Abbat of Tavistock aforesaid, and to his successors, or to any of them, who for the time being shall there be abbat, that he shall be one of the spiritual and religious lords of our, our heirs' and successors' Parliament by enjoying the honour, privilege, and liberties of the same. And moreover of our more abundant grace, earnestly desiring the welfare of our said monastery, and considering the distance thereof, if it shall happen that any abbat for the time being is or shall be absent on the service of the said monastery, and by reason thereof not coming to the Parliament aforesaid of us, our heirs or successors, we pardon by these presents such our abbat's absence, provided always that he forthwith pay into our exchequer for such his absence, by his attorney, five marks, for us, our heirs and successors, as often and as many times as the same in future shall happen. In witness whereof, etc."

John Pyryn succeeded Banham, and, with the monks assembled in chapter, surrendered the abbey to the king's commissioners on March 20, 1538. Of the twenty-two signatures which appear on the margin of the deed of surrender, the following may be noted. The abbat and the prior sign first: "Per me Joh'em Abbate', per me Robertu' Walsh, priore';" then indiscriminately are found: "Joh'es Harriss, subprior, Ryc' (Ricardus) custos," etc. The abbot retired on a pension of £100 per annum, at that period a very large one; the prior had a stipend of £10 per annum; the sub-prior one of £8; the monks from £6 to £5 6s. 8d. each; and two novices were allowed £2 per annum. The abbot continued to reside at Tavistock in the enjoyment of the comfortable provision which had been assigned him; at which place, in the year 1549, he made his will, which being proved in April, 1550, we may conclude that he died about that time.

The dissolved Abbey of Tavistock and its dependencies were, by the king's letter-patent, dated July 4, in the thirty-first year of his reign, granted to John Lord Russel, Ann his wife, and their lawful heirs

male at a certain reserved rent.* Lord Russel had been received into the favour of Henry VII., knighted by his successor, and created a baron of the realm ; nominated Lord Warden of the Stannaries in Devon and Cornwall, Lord Privy Seal and one of the councillors of Edward VI. during his minority. He was constituted Lord High Steward at the coronation of that youthful monarch, and on the insurrection which broke out at Sampford Courtenay in Devon, and which was followed by the siege of the capital of the west, Exeter, Lord† Russel marched against the rebels, totally routed and dispersed them. For these services he was shortly after created Earl of Bedford. It is not the object of these notes to enter at length into the history of this ancient and noble house, suffice it to say that William, the fifth descendant from the earl, was, in the reign of William and Mary, created Marquis of Tavistock and Duke of Bedford, and his present worthy descendant, John, Duke of Bedford, is in possession of the lands and ecclesiastical impropriations of the dissolved abbey. At Endsleigh, a demesne of the abbey, his grace has erected an elegant cottage ornée, delightfully surrounded by woods and rocks, through the midst of which the waters of the Tamar glide on their course towards Newbridge, and thence past the towering crags of Morwell and the wooded heights of Cothele on their way to their magnificent embouchure the Hamoaze and Plymouth Harbour.

Browne Willis informs us that the venerable church of St. Mary and St. Rumon remained standing in its ruins till about the year 1670, when its materials were given to build a school-house. It must have been a magnificent structure, as from the best information he could obtain it extended, inclusive of the usual appendage of a chapel dedicated to the virgin at the east end, upwards of 350 feet in length. The only indications of its existence appear when in digging the graves on its site, which is now included within the cemetery of the parish church, portions of its elegant pavement are thrown out, consisting of those glazed and ornamented tiles which were disposed in our ancient sacred edifices in an infinite variety of connected patterns. The cloisters, which were generally placed on the south or sunny side of the monastic churches, were in that situation at Tavistock. I have already mentioned the single arch of these cloisters which still remains. They were about 40 yards in length. On the east of these was a door into the chapter-house, the walls of which were extant in Willis's day ; he describes it as a structure containing thirty-six stalls, beautifully arched overhead, by which I conclude it was one of those elegant multangular buildings whose groined roofs are usually supported by a single pillar in the centre. The chapter-house and Saxon school, which I shall mention hereafter, were pulled down in 1736 in order to construct a residence for the Duke of Bedford's steward

* Fee-farm Roll, Augmentation Office.
† See Holinshed, pp. 1003, *et seq.*

on their site—this was called the abbey-house, and is now replaced by the Bedford Arms Inn.

While I am writing this account, I am informed in a letter from Mrs. Bray that part of the pavement of the chapter-house has been just discovered, consisting of tiles, bearing the figures of lions and fishes. Having no drawing at present of these tiles, I can only observe that the lion, either passant or rampant, has been borne in the armorial coat of the Earls of Cornwall ever since the time of Reginald (base son of Henry I., a benefactor to the abbey), and that by the fishes some allusion to the possessions of the abbey in the Scilly Isles may be intended.

The refectory stands behind the abbey-house, or Bedford Arms Inn, and is still, as in Browne Willis's day, a meeting-house. A stone pulpit, within the memory of some aged persons, was remaining against the wall of this building, whence the monks were edified at their meals by the readings of one of their fraternity. A very beautiful portico, ceiled with the most elegant tracery, forms the entrance to the refectory. The arms of the abbey are displayed in the centre of the arch; they correspond with those of the Ferrers family who had possessions at Bere in this neighbourhood, and were benefactors to the church. The immediate precinct of the monastery (which enclosed the abbey and parochial churches, the cemetery in which the two last mentioned buildings stood, the Saxon school and monastic offices) was comprised in an irregular plot, of which either side may be taken at about 200 yards, or within the circumference of half a mile. Towards the Tavy a massive wall with a crenellated parapet still remains; also the abbot's private gateway, leading from Guile or Abbot's Bridge into the precinct. The south-west angle of the embattled wall towards the river is formed by a tower called the Still House, which has a door into the abbey grounds, now the vicarage garden, etc.; into this building the healing herbs of the garden were probably brought to be distilled by the monks. Towards the eastern extremity of that part of the boundary wall which faced the river were seated perhaps the officinæ monachorum, whose commodious situation is lauded by Malmesbury. From the Still House the boundary makes a right angle to the northward towards a gateway, the obtusely pointed arch of which is flanked by two low square towers. This also stands in the vicarage garden, and opened into the abbey grounds. It is called Betsy Grimbal's Tower, from some vague tradition of a female who made it her abode after the dissolution of religious houses. Mrs. Bray has made good use of this and other local traditions in her interesting romance "Fitz of Fitzford," in which are incidentally combined much of the topography and history of Tavistock.

The situation of the stew-ponds, for the supply of fish for the monastery, is still marked by some banks and willows in a field to

the westward of the vicarage garden. Here I may state that the handsome and commodious vicarage-house was erected in the year 1818 by his Grace the Duke of Bedford, and the grounds tastefully laid out by the present incumbent. The old vicarage-house* stood near the river, eastward of the bridge. It should also be recorded that Mr. Bray's antiquarian zeal has preserved in the vicarage garden one of those sepulchral stones which belonged to the British inhabitants of Damnonia. The story of the preservation of this ancient monument is somewhat singular. Having fallen, as I suppose, from its original position by the roadside, it lay in the common highway with the inscribed face downwards, in the west street of the town of Tavistock, until its surface was worn so smooth by the traffic of the public road that it became slippery and dangerous for horses to pass over it. About forty years since it was taken up, and, with the face still downwards, it formed a bridge of the Abbey mill-*leat* or stream. The Rev. E. Bray, on hearing that this stone had letters on the under surface, caused it immediately to be removed to the grounds of his father, and finally transferred it to its present situation. This memorial is now placed in its original perpendicular position. It is of moorstone (the granite of Dartmoor usually so called), stands about 7 feet above the surface of the earth, and is inscribed in very legible characters :

"NЄPRANI
FIL CONB'ЄVI."

I have seen at Buckland Monachorum, about six miles from Tavistock, standing near the public highway, another similar stone, inscribed :†

"SAbIN⌴ FIL⌴
MACCODEChETI."

And also by the wayside near Fowey, in Cornwall, a parallel monument dedicated to the memory of Cunowor. . . .

The demolition of a room appropriated to the study of the Saxon language has been alluded to in the preceding notes. No mention of such an establishment is to be found among the muniments of the abbey ; but Archbishop Parker refers to the existence of a Saxon school at Tavistock, and at many other monasteries within the realm, as a matter in the memory of persons of his time.‡ He says that many of the charters and muniments of the early times being written in the Saxon tongue, these foundations were provided in order to communicate the knowledge of it from age to age, lest it should at length become totally obsolete. It is probable that the Saxon school shared the fate of its fostering parent, the monastery, at the time of

* See View of Tavistock, by Ch. De la Fontaine, engraved by R. Parr, 1741.
† These stones are engraved in Lysons' "Devon."
‡ Pref. to Asser's "Annals of Alfred."

the Reformation, or that it merged in the grammar school, still existing at Tavistock, to which no date of foundation can be assigned. Indeed, it is not likely that so eminent a monastery as Tavistock had neglected to establish a school for the instruction of the children of the poor in Latin and church music; the mode in that day of providing that there should always be a number of persons qualified for the priesthood. The grammar school at Tavistock is at the present time very slenderly attended, there seldom being more than one or two scholars on its list. The schoolmaster instructs them in Latin and Greek, and the steward of the Duke of Bedford sends as many scholars (in the name of the Duke) as he chooses; each boy paying two guineas entrance-money and one guinea annually to the master.* Some particulars of the master's stipend in the time of Elizabeth will be found in a subsequent document.

The noble art of printing was communicated to our land about the year 1471, and being first practised in Westminster Abbey, the example was soon followed by St. Augustine's, Canterbury, St. Albans', and "other monasteries of England," says Stow;† among which number was the Abbey of Tavistock. Certain it is that a translation of "Boëtius de Consolatione Philosophiæ," undertaken at the instance of one Elizabeth Berkeley, and completed by John Walton, Canon of Osney, in 1410, was printed at Tavistock in 1524, under the editorship of Dan Thomas Rychard, one of the monks, who, by the prefix of *Dan*, or Dominus, to his name, was perhaps a graduate of the university, or a scholar of some note. It might, however, be a distinction added on account of the office which he bore in the monastery; for I take him to be the same person who signs his name to the surrender, "Rycardus custos." The conclusion of this book (so rare that Hearne had only seen two imperfect copies of it), has the following note:

"Here endeth the Boke of comfort called in latyn 'Boecius de consolatione Phi'e,' Emprented in the exempt Monastery of Tavestok in Denshyre. By me Dan Thomas Rychard Monke of the said Monastery. To the instant desyer of the ryght worshypful esquyer Mayster Robert Langdon. Anno d. M.Dxxv. Deo gracias."‡

Robert Langdon, LL.D., was nephew to Bishop Langdon, a great patron of literature, and I suppose had imbibed something of his uncle's spirit.§

The parish church is dedicated to St. Eustace, and was erected within the cemetery of the abbey church. Leland thought it had not been built long before the Dissolution, and that the parishioners

* "Liber Scholasticus," 8vo., 1829.
† "Annales of England," 4to. edit., p. 660.
‡ "Glossary to Robt. of Gloucester's Chron.," vol. ii., p. 708.
§ Wood's "Athen. Oxon.," vol. ii., p. 646.

had previously a place of worship within the abbey church. This, indeed, was not unlikely, as other examples might readily be adduced to show. The parish church of Tavistock was, however, certainly in existence in the reign of Richard II., and how much earlier I have not discovered; it appears to have been under repair in 1386. The exterior view exhibits a dark lofty tower, under which is an archway, forming a passage from the abbey precinct into the town; four distinct roofs, extending from the tower at the west to the termination of the building, indicate a spacious interior. Among the documents to which I had access in 1827 I found and deciphered the following very early churchwarden's account of the ninth year of Richard II. I shall give an extract from it, on account of the curious items it contains. Among these will be found a charge for collecting rushes for strewing the church against the feast of John the Baptist and the anniversary of the dedication; for the expenses of a man and horse sent to buy wax at Plymouth, for lights in the church; charges for materials for repairing windows, etc.; for making three painted figures in the window of the vestry; for fuel; for shutters to the great east window; for the bringing a mason to repair the said window; for drinkings to the workmen employed on the above; rents from the park of Trewelake for maintaining lights at the altars of St. Nicholas, St. Stephen, St. John the Baptist, St. Katharine; payments made to the sacrist of the parish church for offerings to the respective altars therein; to the notary, for drawing the account, etc.

"Tavystoke. S. Compu's custod'. lumina eccli'e beati Eustachii Tavistock a festo Invenc'o'is s'c'e crucis sub anno d'ni mill° ccc^mo octogesimo usq' ad id'm tu'c p'x'mè sequ' ann' d'm' mill° ccc^mo lxxxvi^to.

"Empcio ceræ. Idem comput. in cxl. lib. ceræ emptis hoc anno lvi.^s x.^d—Custos et Repa'cio Eccli'e.—Idem computat' in cirpis colligend' con'. festum s'c'i Johis' baptistæ iv.^d—In die dedicac'ois eccl'ie.—In bokeram emptis in repac'o'e vestimentor'.—In conduco'e unius viri ceram emere apud Plymouth et unius equi expens. suis ibidem viii.^d—In qua'rtio calcis (lime) empt. xv.^d—In carriag. d'ce v.^d—In carreragio lapid. iv.^d (carriage of stone).—In vet. vit. (old glass) empt. iii.^s v.^d—In repac'oe unius fenestræ vitre. in fine ecc'lie ii.^s iiii.^d—In vi. pedibus novi vitri empt. vii.^s—In viii. pedibus veteris vitri iii.^s iv.^d—In focalibus (fuel) empt. ii.^d—In lviij. lib. plumbi empt. iv.^s x. ob.—In vii. lib. stanni empt. xviii.^d—In conduco'e unius machionis (mason) ad d'c'am fenestram reparand.—In factura trium ymaginum in fenestr. in vestiario xii.^d—I' repa'coe trium claterium (shutters) ad magnam fenestram in fine eccl'ie vi.^d—In cibo et potu vi.^d—In biberia ad opus fenest' iii.^d—Ad campanas xii.^d (for bell ringing).—In rasina (resin) empt. in factura 11 torches.—In 1 parva corda pro velo.—In v. verg. (yards) panni linei ad unum rochetum.—In factura

ejusd. rocheti vi.—In factura unius cartæ vi.^{d}—In libitina (a bier) empt. viii.—In repa'coe vestimentorum *p. a'.* vi.^{d}—In vestimentis lavandis *p. a'.* vi.^{d}—Item. Ad cap. redditis parci de trewelake xvi.^{d} Et diversis altaribus eccl'ie p'd'ce de redds. p'ci. pd'ci. viz., ad lumen sci nichi. iii.^{d} ad lumen sc'i ste'phi iii.^{d} ad lumen sci Joh. baptiste iii.^{d} ad lumen sce Katerine iii.^{d}—In clerico scribent. compot. xii.—In emenda, coe fenest' ii.^{d}—In pergamino (parchment) empto ii.^{d}."

The sum total of these expenses, of which I have only given extracts, is £3 7s. 3d.; then follows:

"Liberacio denar'.—Idem computat' in liba'coe Sacristæ monasterii de Tavystoke pro oblacione perveniente ad altaria ecclesie parochialis predictæ iii.^{s} iv.^{d} per ann.—Pro altari sce Marie apud la south dor vi.^{s} viij.^{d} a festo invencionis sce crucis usque ad idem festum tunc proxime sequent'. Pro altari sci Eustach. xii.^{d} per a. pro altari scæ Katerinæ xii.^{d} pro altari sci blasii iv.^{d} p' altari sci Jois baptist. vi.^{d} pro altari sce trinitatis vi.^{d} p' altari sci georgii iv.^{d} pro altari sci salvatoris in capella Joh. dabernoun iv.^{d}."

The account is subscribed "per me cleric'," by the notary, who, I suspect, was a wag, as, instead of his signature, he affixes his notarial mark; a head with an extraordinarily long nose (perhaps this was intended for his own portrait) having a quill stuck on the forehead by way of plume. Subjoined to the account is this postscript:

"Sepum (tallow) pro mortario.* . . . de xxxiv. lib. sepi de empcione hoc ann. Thesaurus ecc'lie. Idem R. de cupa cum cuverculo (cup and cover) argenteo et duobus angelis deauratis tenent. vit. clau. corpus. d'm'cum (two gilt angels holding the body of our Lord enclosed in glass); et de iv. calices cum patenis argent. Et de duobus cruetis argent (silver cruets). Et de 1 pixide argenteo pro corpore, x.^{s}. Summa pat. Et reman. 1 cupa cum cuverculo, iv. calices cum patenis, 2 cruet' cum pixide argenteo."

The paintings which form the subject of the engraving that accompanied these notes are the next relics in point of antiquity appertaining to the Church of St. Eustace. The panels are 2 feet 11 inches in height, the longer piece 4 feet in length, the shorter about 2 feet; the figures are canopied (as may be seen) by the most tasteful and elegant carved Gothic foliage; the mouldings which divided them no longer remain, but their situation is readily observed by the vacant spaces between the figures, and those who have a knowledge of the Gothic style of architecture and ornament will easily supply them. The first figure to the left hand is the martyred Stephen, his hands uplifted, and his head surrounded by a nimbus of glory, the distinguishing emblem of saints; the next figure is St. Lawrence, holding the instrument of his martyrdom, the gridiron. These are all that remain of a series of saints, which were probably at least nine in number, to correspond with the nine grades of the

* A light burning at the shrines or tombs of the dead.

angelic hierarchy, which are distinguished with wings. Of the latter remain the personifications of the Archangeli, Cherubim, Potestates, and a fourth, with a crown and sceptre, the inscription of which was probably Principatus. The style of the armour worn by one of the figures fixes the age of the painting at about the time of Henry VI. I believe that the whole of these figures must have adorned compartments of the rood-loft of the parish church, which was doubtless erected over the opening from the church into the chancel; supporting the figure of our blessed Saviour on the cross, and of His mother and John, the disciple whom he loved, standing by. . . .

[1830, *Part I., pp.* 409-412.]

A veil or curtain was drawn over the rood and the figures attached to it, when the services of the church in which they were exhibited were completed. This explains the charge in the preceding account, "of a little cord for the veil."*

The next parochial document appertaining to the church of St. Eustace, which I shall notice, is headed as follows:

"The account of Thomas Boles and John Collyn, wardens of the churche of Tavistock ffrom the thirde day of Maye in the yere of our Lorde Godd one thowsande ffyve hundred ffower schore and eight, until the third day of May in the yere of our Lorde Godd one thousande ffyve hundred ffower schore and nyne, that is to weete for one whole yere."

From which I extract the following items:

"Receipts for the buryalle and belle.†

"Imprimis, the same accomptants doe charge themselves with the receipt of iv*d.* ffor the greate bell, upon the death of Margarett the daughter of Roger Dollyn.

"Item. Receaved upon the deathe of Agnes Drake, for all the bells and her grave, vii*s.* iv*d.*

"Receaved for all the bells upon the death of Ewesties (Eustace) Collyn, viii*d.*

"Receaved of the p'shers (parishioners) of Tavistock towardes a rate made for the settinge fourthe of souldyers for the guardinge of the Queen's ma'tie's p'son, and towardes the mayntenaunce of the churche this yere, as appeareth by a book of p'ticulars thereof, xxx*li.* x*s.* iv*d.*"

A large portion of this charge was doubtless for the musters of 1588, the year of the Armada.

"Item. Gave Mr. Bickell, Mr. Battishill, Mr. Knightes, and other preachers who preached at s'vall times in this p'ishe churche this

* "Sold, a rod of iron, which the curtain run upon before the rood. A.D. 1549, 3d Edward VI."—Fuller's "Hist. of Waltham Abbey."

† This shows that the expressions used by Shakespeare in his "Hamlet," "the bringing home of *bell and burial*," were in the current form of his day.—Vide "Hamlet," Act v., scene 1.

yere [1588] iv*s.* viii*d.*—Item. Paide for wyne and breade this yere for the comunyon table lix*s.* iii*d.*—Item, paide John Drake the schole master, for teachinge in the gramer schole this yere, xii*li.*—Item, paid to Nicholas Watts for wages for teachinge of the little children this yere, iiij*li.*—Item, paide at the muster in August last past, xl*s.*—Item, paide by Mr. Ffytz his comaundement the xvi. of June, 1588, unto a collector having the Queene's greate seale to collect with, vi*d.*—Item, paide for a rope for one of the bells, xviij*d.*—Item, paide in August for the expenses of the soldiers at Plympton, vii*s.*—Item, paid to John Burges, for his paynes in goinge with the Thrum [the town drum] vi*d.*—Item, paide the 6th of August and the 8th of August last past, to Mr. Ffytz of the moneyes collected at the last rate xvii*li.*—Item, paide the 18th of August last, to Richard Drake, towards the charge of the tynners, vi*li.*—Item, paide James the cutler for makinge cleane strappynge and other trymynge for the corselett and other armour of the parishe, and for a new daggar, vi*s.*—Item, paide for a new girdell, xvi*d.*—Item, paide for a booke of articles at the firste visitac'on, and for other ffees then, xxii*d.*—Item, for writing the presentments* at the visita'on, and lyninge in thereof, xiid.—Item, paide for the expences of the wardens, sydemen, clarckes, and others of the p'ishe at dynner that day, vi*s.* vi*d.*—Item, paide Thomas Watts for amendinge of the Bible and the Bookes of Co'mon Prayer, beinge toren in dyvers places, ii*s.* ii*d.*—Item, paide for the expences of the constable, Mr. Mohan, and of John Collyn, one of the wardens, and of Stephen Hamblyn, and of the constable's man at Plympton, beinge there at the assessinge of the subsidie, the xth of September, 1588, iii*s.* i*d.*—Item, paide to one that collected with the broade seale, the twentieth of October last vi*d.*

"Item, paide to three Iryshemen, which hadd a lycense from the Earell [Earl] of Bath, vi*d.*

"To a poore man of Saynt Sidwell's, which had a testymonyall, vi*d.*

"To a poore man that collected for the hospitall of Saynt Leonard's, vi*d.*

"Paide the paver for amendinge the pavement by the conduytts and the street by the higher churche bowe, xxvii.

"William Gaye for killing of eight ffoxes† this yere, viii*s.*

"Item, paid for a chayne and settinge in thereof, for the fastenynge of the dictionarrie in the schole howse,‡ ix*d.*

* Of recusants refusing to attend the common prayer.

† The reward for the destruction of a fox was increased about a century after this time, more than threefold, as appears from the following entry: "May 19, 1673.—This day it was agreed by the masters and inhabitants of the towne and parishe of Tavystocke, that whosoever shall kill any ffox within the said parish shall receive for his or their paynes in so doing the sum of three shillings and four pence."—Churchwarden's Book, 1660 to 1740.

‡ This is an amusing charge, and shows the scarcity of lexicographic tomes in that day. The reader will remember to have seen in many parish churches the

"Item, paide Walter Burges for one planke and nayles, amendinge of the Widdow Nicholls and Walter Poynter's wyfe's seate, and other seates, vii*d.* Item, paide him for coveringe of sixe graves in the churche this yere, xviii*d.* Item, paid him for washinge of the church clothes, viii*d.*

"Item, for wrytinge this accompt and the accompt of the almshouse landes, vi*s.* viii*d.*

"Bestowed on Mr. Moore the preacher, for his expence, xxii*d.*"

From a churchwarden's book, beginning 1661, I extract the following entries:

"Briefs in our parish as follow:

"29*th April*, 1660. Collected for a company going to New England, taken by the Ostenders, 6*s.* 6*d.*

"*September* 16*th*, 1666. Collected towards the reliefe of the present poore distressed people of the towne and university of Cambridge.

"*October* 11*th*, 1666. Collected towards the reliefe of the poore inhabitants of London, who have lately suffered by the lamentable fire, 11*l.* 5*s.* 9½*d.*

"*February* 21*st*, 1668. Collected the day above written of the towne and parishe of Tavistocke towards the reliefe and redemption of severall persons now slaves to the Turkes in Algiers and Sallay and other places, 1*l.* 2*s.* 1½*d.*

"1670. 21*st*, 22*d*, 23*d*, 24*th November.* Collected towards the redemption of the present captives in Turkey, in the town and parish of Tavistock." The list consists of upwards of 700 contributors.* Amount of contributions, 16*l.* 0*s.* 9½*d.*

"12*th July*, 1674. Collected then the summe of 1*l.* 3*s.* 4¼*d.* for the fire of St. Martin's in the feilds in the county of Middlesex.

"9*th May*, 1675. Collected then for John Forslett, of Milbrooke, in the county of Cornwall, a poor captive in Ffez under the Turks, 1*l.* 10*s.* 1½*d.*

"24*th April*, 1675. For the fire at Redburne in the county of Hertford, 6*s.* 6*d.*

"*March* 19*th*, 1675. To a petition for John Lawes, a captive in Tituan, 9*s.* 3*d.*

"13*th September*, 1677. For the fire at St. Saviour's and St. Thomas, in the county of Surrey, 27*s.* 9*d.*

"27*th October.* For James Cole of Totnes, a captive in Argier, 17*s.* 7½*d.*

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black letter "Acts and Monuments of the Martyrs," similarly attached *pro bono publico* "to a chayne." Erasmus's "Paraphrase on the Gospels" remains at the present time thus secured in Tavistock Church, the original cost of which, according to an item in another account, was 15s.

* At the head of this list is the Honourable Lady Marie Howard, 10s.; George Howard, Esq., 6s.; eight of their servants, 9s.

"1680, *August.* Another general collection for redemption of the present captives in Turkey, amounting to 6*l.* 18*s.* 5*d.*

"1681, *November.* Another, towards 'the present subsistence and relief of the distressed Protestants of Ffrance, 6*l.* 12*s.* $3\frac{1}{4}d.$'

"27*th September*, 1683. Paid and layd out to one Mrs. Mary Danevaux fowre shillings for her charge in going to her friends, having a greate loss among nine fammilyes in the town of Mumby in the country of Lincoln, having seen her petition under the hands and seals of the justices of peace of that county, Somerset, and Devon, to testifie it. The sum is 1400*l.* she lost by a breache of the tyde storme that violently destroyed heare houses and goods, and her husbande was lost in saving those goods."

These captives in Turkey, which appear to have been very numerous, were prisoners to the rovers of Barbary, whose piratical depredations on the seas, in the reign of Charles II., were repressed with considerable difficulty by the outfit of several naval armaments against them.

The register of marriages, births, baptisms and deaths, is not extant at Tavistock earlier than the year 1660; but the Rev. Mr. Carpenter, of South Sydenham, or Sydenham Damerell, in that neighbourhood, showed me the register of his church, beginning A.D. 1539. I apprehend this is as early a register as any extant, for in the year 1538, says Stow, "in the moneth of September, Thomas Cromwell, Lord Privy Seale, Vicegerent to the King's Highness, sent forth intimations to all bishops and curates through the realme, charging them to see that in everie parish church, the Bible of the largest volume printed in English, were placed for all men to reade on (secured, no doubt, like the dictionary of the Grammar School at Tavistock, and the 'Martyrology,' in many churches, by 'a chayne,') and that a book or register were also provided and kept in every parish church, wherein shall be written every wedding, christning, and burying, within the same parish for ever."*

The various heads of the Sydenham Register are preceded by certain texts of Scripture, as the baptismal entries, by "whosever was not found written in the book of life, was cast into the lake of fire," etc.

The overthrow of the episcopal church by the fanatics and puritans, who acted so prominent a part in the political revolution, during the reign of the unfortunate Charles, placed the parochial clergy at the mercy of a crew of hypocrites and high pretenders to religion, who violated its first principle, common charity. In the British Museum is preserved a register of all the church livings in several of the principal counties of England, made about the year 1654, for the use of the Commissioners under an Act for ejecting scandalous and inefficient ministers. In this document we find the living of Tavistock

* Stow's "Annales," edit. 1592, 4to., p. 972.

valued at £240 per annum; the Earl of Bedford its patron. Glebe £7 per annum; and £50 per annum, lately added to the incumbent's pension by the Earl of Bedford, which before had been but £19 per annum.*

The incumbent was Mr. Thomas Lewknor, who had the good chance to be noted in the report as "a preaching minister"; others, not so fortunate, were marked out for expulsion. . . .

[1830, *Part I., pp.* 489-495.]

In Tavistock Church is a monument, beautifully executed, of Judge Glanvile in his robes; another, which I have little doubt is that of the unfortunate Sir John Fitz (of whom more under Fitzford) and his lady. Also memorials of the Willesfords, the Fortescues of Buckland Filleigh, and the Manatons, who, subsequently to the Glanviles, were the possessors of Kilworthy.

Prince mentions an honorary cenotaph to that eminently great and politic sovereign Queen Elizabeth. The Rev. Mr. Bray informs me that it consisted of a painting on the south wall of the chancel, now effaced, representing a sepulchral monument. . . .

The Lazar-house, or hospital, of St. Mary Magdalen and St. Theobald, an hospital for leprous men and women (of the foundation of which no record is extant) stood at the western extremity of the town of Tavistock, on the spot where the parish workhouse is now built. It was dedicated, as eleemosynary establishments for a similar purpose usually were, to St. Mary Magdalen, and was commonly called the Maudlin Chapel. St. Theobald was, in this instance, associated as co-patron with St. Mary.

My researches among such of the old deeds in the parish chest at Tavistock as were accessible to me, in the year 1827, has enabled me to give the following list of Priors or Governors of the Maudlin. I shall incidentally mention the different documents which have afforded me the information.

Ralph Gryth was Prior in the seventeenth year of the reign of Edward IV., when I find him granting to Ralph Foster, in the name of himself and his successors, for twenty years, all the close called the Maudlin Park (enclosed fields obtained, and in many instances I believe retain, the appellation of parks in this county), at the yearly rent of 12s. per annum.

Thomas Glanfelde was Prior in the 19th year of Henry VIII., as I learn from his lease to John Tibb, during the term of the contracting parties' lives, of nine feet of ground "lying by the hospital plats and boundyngs," at 10d. per annum, the rent to be paid at Michaelmas and Lady-day, half yearly.

William Cole, Prior in the 32nd of Henry VIII., leases for sixty

* £11 per annum was the pension charged on the Earl of Bedford, by the original grant of the abbey lands at the suppression.

years to Richard Foster, Constance his wife, and John the son of Richard Foster, all the close and garden situate north of the hospital, having on the west the Spital Lane, and the land called the "Mawdelyn grounde."

Robert Isaac, who is styled Gubernator (Governor), in the following year grants a lease to Guido Leman, of a tenement and three gardens in Ford Street.

Thomas Payne, Prior in the 2nd and 3rd of Philip and Mary, lets to William Russell, baker, all the garden and its appurtenances called "the blind Hey," at 2s. per annum. The style of the King and Queen I shall add from the attestation, as it is not perhaps very generally known: "Philipp and Marye, by the grace of God Kyng and Quene of England, Fraunce, Naples, Hierusalem, and Ireland, defenders of the Fayth, princes of Spayne and Sicyll, archedukes of Austria, dukes of Millayne, Burgundye, and Brabant, counts of Haspurge, Flaunders, and Tyroll."

The hospital or lazar-house of St. Mary and St. Theobald, survived the suppression of establishments of a larger nature, and in the 27th of Elizabeth, "John Batte, then Prior, and the bretheryn and sustern of the same house, with one consent, by deed indented under seal, demised to John Ffitz, Esquier, William Houghton, Nicholas Glanvile, Robert Moore, Edward Denys, Roger Upcote, Thomas Libbe, Richard Drake, Thomas Sowton, the last eight being supervisors, dispensators for the behoof of the church and parish of Tavistock of the poor people of the same, for the term of one thousand years, the house known by the name of the Maudlyn Chapel, the chapel hay thereto belonging, three closes of land called the Maudlin parkes, one garden in the occupation of John Ffitz, and one meadow called the Maudlin mead, lying near the water of Lambourn." * These were, therefore, the possessions of this charitable endowment (by whomever originally made), which had protected for some centuries the outcast of society, the poor afflicted leper, from beggary and want. Lepers not thus provided for sought their living from the charity of passengers, and sate by the wayside, attracting their attention, or warning them from contact, by the ringing of a handbell. In an illuminated MS. of the Lansdowne Library, in the British Museum, may be seen a representation of a leprous woman thus provided, her face disfigured with spots, her limbs swathed in bandages. She rings her bell, and exclaims, "Some good, my gentle masters, for God's sake!" . . .

The Chapel of the Maudlin appears by the following entry in the Churchwarden's book of Tavistock to have been in existence, and used, I suppose, for Divine service, in the year 1672. "October 20, 1672, then collected at the Maudlin Chappell, towardes the reliefe

* Now Lamerton. Rowe, the poet, was born there. He was son of the incumbent of the church.

of John Bazely, blacksmith, inhabitant in the saide towne of Tavistocke, the sum of thirty shillings and sixpence."

St. John's Chapel.—On the south bank of the Tavy, under a steep and woody declivity, near Guile or Abbey Bridge, stood St. John's Chapel, a dependency of the abbey, occupied, I believe, by a solitary monk or hermit, to whose custody this oratory was consigned.

A fine natural spring rises in this spot from the earth (a circumstance which seems to have been usually sought for in choosing the site of an hermitage),* and falls into the Tavy. Hermitages were generally dedicated to St. John, from that apostle having entered on his labours in the desert. The ancient Romish Pontifical has a particular office for consecrating an hermit to his solitary life, "Ad recludendum anacoritam." From an old inventory of the Treasury of Tavistock Parish Church, I gather that a hermit (doubtless of St. John's) left his silver crucifix to the church, enclosing a portion of the wood of the real cross.† The following petition to William Earl of Bedford, which may be dated about the year 1677, is extant among the parish archives :

"To the Right Honorable William Earle of Bedford, Lord Russell, and Baron of Thornaugh :

"The humble petition of your Portrieve, and the Masters of yo^r^ Towne and Burrough of Tavistock,

"Humbly sheweth,

"That, whereas theare is a little cottage much ruyned, with two little garden plotts to the same belonginge, called by the name of St. John's Chapple, bought in by the p'shioners of Tavistocke in the tyme of the late contagious sicknes, and then converted to a Pest House, and was verie usefull and beneficiall to your said Towne and Burrough, in regard it borders on the River of Tavey, and seeinge of late it is falne into your Lordship's hands, wee humbly desire and begge your Lordship, out of your noble bountie and wonted charitie, to bestowe an estate for nynetie nyne yeares determinable on the three lives hereunder named, in the said cottage and gardens on your said Towne and Burrough, reservinge to your Lordship the auncient rent of one shilling yearly : and as it is our whole desire, soe it shall be our choicest care, it be altogether converted to the use of the poore of your said Towne and Burrough, except great necessitie constrayne us againe to convert it to a Pest House. This boone, if your honour please to bestowe on us for soe pious a worke, your humble petic'oners shall daylie praie for your Lordship's prosperitie, long to

* See observations by A. J. K. on the Hermitage in the Wall, Monkwell Street, Cripplegate.—*Gent.'s Mag.*, May, 1825, p. 401.

† I saw a cross of gold of this description, sold in the year 1828, at Thomas's auction rooms, described as having belonged to Edward the Confessor. It inclosed a small portion of black wood, and bore the inscription, "PRECIOSVM LIGNVM DOMINI."

continue. (Signed) John Cudlippe, Portrieve, Ffrancis Collen, Michael Willesford, Jo. Herry, David Sargant, Richard Spry, William Saxfen, Walter Godben."

St. Margaret's was a small chapelry also dependent on the abbey. No remains of this building are now extant; but the Rev. Mr. Bray thinks it stood near Tavy Town, now Mount Tavy, the seat of John Carpenter, Esq., and that it was used as a place of worship by the families inhabiting the hamlet and manor of Cudlippe town.

There are three stone bridges over the Tavy at Tavistock, establishing a communication between the town and the south bank of the river. Two are in immediate contiguity with the town, Abbey or Guile bridge, and New bridge; and the third is West bridge at Ford or Fitzford, in its immediate vicinity. The legend which accounts for the erection of Guile or Abbey bridge, however trite, cannot well be passed over in silence in a topographical sketch of Tavistock. In the reign of Edward III., one Child, of Plimstock, a man of large possessions, hunting in the winter season on the trackless waste of Dartmoor, lost his way, and being pressed by the extremity of cold, killed his horse, embowelled him, and crept into his carcase for shelter; but seeing little chance of preservation by this expedient, he at the same time made his will in the following terms, using some of the blood of his steed for ink:

> "He that finds and brings me to my tomb,
> My lands which are at Plimstock shall be his doom."

At length, to use the words of a British pastoral poet, pathetically describing a similar occurrence,

> "————on every nerve
> The deadly winter seizes, shuts up sense;
> And, o'er his inmost vitals creeping cold,
> Lays him along the snows a stiffened corse,
> Stretch'd out and bleaching in the northern blast."

A passenger finds the body with the testament, and gives notice to the monks of St. Rumon of the circumstance; they hasten to the spot in order to bring the corpse to their church for interment, and to claim the conditional bequest. The men of Plimstock, hearing also of the extraordinary will of their townsman, assemble at a certain bridge, then the only passage over the river in those parts, to oppose the monks in their way, and possess themselves of his body. The monks, too subtle for their opponents, construct a temporary bridge for the passage of the corpse, on the spot where one of stone was afterwards erected, which bears to this day the name of "*Guile* bridge," in allusion to the wily stratagem. Those, however, who are not easily credulous of these amusing old tales, will perhaps conceive that by Guile bridge there is nothing more implied than the *Guild* bridge, particularly as it leads immediately to the Guildhall of Tavistock. Mr. Bray informs me that the old bridge of the town

was situate between Guile and the East bridge, and that he some years since recollects the ruins of one of the piers projecting above the water-course. None of the present bridges at Tavistock bear the marks of any antiquity.

Fitz-ford [*ante*, p. 230].

At the distance of about a mile westward of the town of Tavistock, near the bridge over the river Tavy, called West bridge, in which spot the river was anciently passed by a ford, stood the mansion of the ancient family of Fytz, which from its contiguity to the passage over the river, obtained the appellation of Fitz-ford; a Gothic gateway of the Tudor age, and some spacious barns and outbuildings, still afford testimony of the former importance of this knightly residence. John Fytz, one of the governors of the Society of Lincoln's Inn, in 6, 7, and 8 Henry VI., settled here about the middle of the fifteenth century, and John his great-grandson joined to a distinguished proficiency in his profession as counsellor at law, a profound application to the more abstruse and altogether chimerical principles of judicial astrology; reveries which, like those of Gall and Spurzheim, had their day, but which possessed a longer influence than the latter are likely to maintain over men's imaginations. Mr. Fytz married a daughter of Sir John Sydenham, of Brimpton, in the county of Somerset,* and previously to the birth of a son and heir, while his lady was in labour, he erected a scheme to calculate his child's nativity, and found by the relative position of the planets at the moment, that unless the midwife could defer the birth one hour, the child must come to an unhappy end; thus indeed (for pretended seers sometimes prophecy the truth) it fell out: for this child succeeding to his father's estate, was knighted, and on some quarrel with his neighbour, Sir Nicholas Slanning of Bickleigh, the occasion of which is not known, met and slew him in a duel in the year 1599. The occurrence is reported by tradition to have taken place under the gateway at present standing at Fitzford; and an officious servant is said to have urged his master, Sir John Fytz, on to the sanguinary catastrophe; for, seeing him put up his sword, as unwilling to push the affair to its dreadful extremity, he exclaimed, "What, play child's play! Come to fight, and put up your sword!" Sir John Fytz procured his pardon from the Queen, but the widow of Slanning brought her appeal in the Court of King's Bench, and obtained part of his estate by way of fine. Fytz's ill stars

* The counterpart lease of a field, with liberty to John Fytz, Esq., to convey water from a fountain therein "in pipes of timber, lead, or otherwise," to his mansion-house at Fitzford, dated 10th of Elizabeth, is extant among the archives of Tavistock parish. It is sealed with Mr. Fytz's arms, a cross engrailed gules in a field gouttée argent. There is some variation between this and the coat as given by Prince. The spring above mentioned is in a meadow at a short distance from the gateway, and a little conduit is erected over it. The name of Fytz is pronounced by the Devonians long Fyze.

still shedding their baleful influence over him, he shortly after killed another person, and repairing immediately to the Court to sue for a pardon, was disturbed at the inn at Salisbury where he lay, by a knocking at his chamber door, when fearing, as the poet says, "each bush an officer," he thought the ministers of justice were in pursuit of him, and seizing his sword, suddenly in the dark slew the unfortunate person who in mistake had disturbed him. Lights being brought, and finding himself for the third time guilty of a sanguinary deed, he in despair ran on his own weapon, and perished. The epitaph of Slanning in Bickleigh Church at this day alludes in quaint but expressive terms to this event, and points it out as a just retribution by the hand of Providence on homicide:

> "Idem cœdis erat nostræ simul author et ultor,
> Trux homicida mei, mox homicida sui;
> Quamq. in me primum, mox in se condidit ensem;
> O nostrûm, summi Judicis, arbitrium. . . ."*

The monument of this Fytz and his lady are extant, as has been said, in Tavistock Church; it was erected probably in their lifetime, and his subsequent dreadful end may account for the absence of all inscription whatever.

There remains in the parish chest of Tavistock the muster roll of Sir Nicholas Slanning, son of the above, who was remarkable for his zeal in the royal cause during the civil war, and who, having joined the forces of the West under Sir Bevil Grenville, was present at the battle of Lansdowne near Bath, and perished in the same year, 1643, at the assault of Bristol. Slanning's muster roll is thus intituled:

"*Stannary of Tavistocke.*—A perfect muster-roll, containing the several hundreds, parishes, and hamletts, together with the officers and souldiers within the said Stannary. Officers, Sir Nicholas Slanning, Lieutenant-Colonel; Joseph Drake, esq., Capt.-Lieutenant; John Jacob, gent., Ensign." Names of four sergeants and eight corporals.

"*Hundred of Roborough.*—Walkhampton, 12 names; Whitchurch, 13 ditto; Tamerton Folliett (Foliot), 3 ditto; Sampford Spiney, 6 ditto; Wilsworthy Hamblet, 3 ditto; Buckland Monocor' (Monachorum), 29 ditto; Peter Tavy, 7 ditto; West Tavistocke, 8 ditto.—*Hundred of Tavistock*—Tavistocke towne, 24 ditto.—*Hundred of Liston*—Liston and Verginstow, 3 ditto; Sourton, 6 ditto; Mary Tavy, 9 ditto; Lidford, 3 ditto; Lew Trenchard, 1 ditto; Broadwood widger, 2 ditto; Lamerton, 4 ditto; Bridistow, 10 ditto; Oakhampton, 2 ditto; Coriton, 3 ditto; Bratton Clovelly, 6 ditto.

* Thus closely rendered by Prince:

> "He author of my murder was, and the revenger too,
> A bloody murderer of me, and then himself he slew,
> The very sword which in mine first, he bathed in his own blood,
> O! of the highest Judge 'twixt us, the arbitration good!"
>
> "Worthies of Devon," p. 597.

"*Hundred of Black Torrenton*—North Lew, 2 ditto; Keakebeare Hamblett, 0.

"Seen and confirmed by us under our hands and seales..... (name effaced), Nicholas Slanning, Edw. Yarde, Joseph Drake."

The total of this force is 156; of which about two-thirds are specified as armed with muskets, and the remainder with pikes. At the back of the roll are the following notes, which may be interesting to the military antiquary:

"Horse defensive armes, are a back, brest, and pot, pistol proofe; offensive, a sword and a case of pistells, ther barrell not under 14 inches in length; horse furniture, a great saddle or pad wth burrs and straps to affix the holster.

"Footman's armes: musquett barrell not under three foot; the gage of the bore for twelve bullets (new) but y^{e} old way fourteen to y^{e} pound; a coller of bandaliers; wth a sworde.

"Pykeman's armes: a pyke of ashe not under 16 foote head and foote included, wth a backe, brest, head-piece and sword, y^{e} old pyke fifteen ..... [feet]; Musquetier, halfe pound poudder and 3 yards of match, half a pound of bulletts.

"Horse, a q^{r} a pound pouder and soe of bulletts; 5^{s} for every day's omission" [of attendance].

To return to the notice of Fitzford, from which I have somewhat digressed. The unfortunate Sir John Fitz left an only daughter by his wife Gertrude, daughter of Sir William Courtenay of Powderham. She in succession married four noble gentlemen (falling short in her matrimonial alliances by one only, of Chaucer's wife of Bath); first, Sir Alan Percy, 6th son of Henry Earl of Northumberland; next Thomas, son of Thomas Darcy, Earl Rivers; then Sir Charles Howard, fourth son of the Earl of Suffolk; fourthly and lastly, Sir Richard Grenville, who, embracing the royal cause in the great rebellion in 1644, his house at Fitzford was taken in that year by the Parliamentary General, the Earl of Essex, with two pieces of cannon and 150 prisoners. The number of prisoners, it will be seen, almost exactly coincides with that of the muster-roll which I have quoted, and I think there is a strong probability that the first signature on the roll, unfortunately erased, is that of Sir Richard Grenville. He afterwards perished in the cause which he had espoused. Lady Mary Howard and George Howard, Esq., who I suppose were children of the often contracted Lady Gertrude, are found in 1670 subscribing to the brief for the captives to the Algerines. Tradition at Tavistock has fixed a lasting stigma on the memory of Lady Howard, of which, with some poetical licence, as to the time of her existence and her connection with the family of Fitz, Mrs. Bray has made good use in her admirably characteristic old English tale, "Fitz of Fitzford." . . .

There was at Fitzford a small chapel dedicated to St. George.

Risdon says that Fitzford was originally an hospital founded by the family of Tremaine. . . .

Crowndale lies about a mile west of Tavistock; here the celebrated Sir Francis Drake is said to have been born; the house in which he first saw the light was pulled down a few years since. The Rev. E. Bray has preserved a sketch of it.

Hurdwick was the capital manor of the barony of that name, which contained sixteen knights' fees and a half, and which gave title to the whole hundred. This was, I suspect, the residence of Ordgar, the founder of the abbey. It were too fanciful, perhaps, to conclude that its name is a contraction of *Ord*wick, or Ordgar's-wick. In right of this barony the abbot of Tavistock claimed the privileges of view of frankpledge, gallows, pillory, assize of bread and beer, which were allowed on an inquisition of *quo warranto* held in the time of Edward I.* At Hurdwick there remains, or remained till lately, a fine old Gothic barn.

Morwell House, a quadrangular stone building with a court in the centre, is an excellent specimen of the domestic architecture of the latter end of the fifteenth century. It is traditionally styled the hunting-seat of the abbots of Tavistock, and was probably the capital manse, or grange, of the manors of Morwell and Morwellham, which belonged to the abbey. This edifice contains a small chapel for the celebration of religious offices by the monks who were resident at the Grange.

Courtenay Alms Houses. One of the ancient and noble family of Courtenay gave £4 per annum to be divided, by way of pension, among four poor widows in a hospital, or almshouse, at Tavistock. This building was repaired by George Courtenay, Esq., of Walreddon, at the beginning of the eighteenth century.†

By the friendly liberality of John Caley, Esq., F.S.A., Keeper of the Records in the Augmentation Office, I am enabled to illustrate these notes with an engraving from a drawing by the late Mr. Bartholomew Howlett, of the Seal of Tavistock Abbey. It is one of the extensive and valuable collection of drawings after monastic seals, made for Mr. Caley by that ingenious artist. The impression of the seal here represented is attached to the original deed of surrender in the Augmentation Office, which I have before noticed.

The virgin and child are represented under a Gothic canopy, and on either hand a kneeling angel swinging a thuribulum, or censer. Under an arch below the virgin's feet is St. Rumon decorated with

* Placita de quo warranto, 9 et 10 Edw. I.

† Walreddon is the old mansion of an estate so called belonging to the Courtenay family, in the adjoining parish of Whitchurch. It occupies an elevated site in the centre of the demesne, which is beautifully situated on the south side of the Tavy. The house is of stone, and the arms of Edward VI. are carved in oak in one of the principal rooms. It is at present the residence of William Courtenay, Esq., and his lady, elder daughter of the late Admiral Arthur Kempe.

a mitre, and holding a pastoral staff, and on each side of the saint a monk in the attitude of prayer.

Legend—"SIGILLVM ECCLESIE S'C'E MARIE ET S'C'I RVMONI TAVISTOCH."

This seal I suppose was made about the time of the rebuilding of the abbey church, which was consecrated when completed by Bishop Stapyldon, A.D. 1318, the architecture of which was doubtless similar in style. Having again adverted to the surrender of the possessions of the abbey to the Crown, I take the opportunity of observing with what particularity the lands, liberties, and advantages surrendered are detailed in that instrument. It recites that

"John, by the patience of God, Abbat of the Monastery, or Abbacy, of the Church of the blessed Virgin and St. Rumon, Tavistock, of the order of Saint Benedict, and the convent of the same place; finally, and of their own accord, grant, resign, and confirm to their illustrious, invincible Lord and Prince Henry VIII., etc., etc., all the said Monastery or Abbacy, together with all and singular the manors, demesnes, messuages, gardens, curtilages, tofts, lands, tenements, meadows, pastures, woods, underwoods, rents, reversions, services, mills, passages, knights' fees, marriage wards, native villeins and their followers, commons, liberties, free foundations, advowsons, nominations, presentations, and donations of churches, vicarages, chapels, chantries, pensions, portions, annuities, tithes, oblations, and all and singular emoluments, profits, possessions, hereditaments, and rights whatsoever, within the counties of Cornwall, Dorset, Somerset, Gloucester, Wiltshire, and elsewhere, within the Kingdom of England and Wales, and their marches, in what way soever belonging to the said Monastery, or Abbacy, of Tavystocke." Also "all charters, evidences, writings, and muniments, and the whole foundation, circuit, and precinct of the Monastery aforesaid, and all rights to it belonging, however acquired."* . . .

I derive the following supplementary note of the possessions of the abbey from the fee farm roll in the Augmentation Office, which recites the grant of them to Baron John Russell and the Lady Anne his wife, to be held of the king, *in capite*, by the service of one knight's fee, yielding annually, at Michaelmas, thirty-six pounds only:

"The whole demesne and site of the late Monastery of Tavistock, and all its appurtenances, all the burgh and town of Tavistock, and all the burgages therein, the manors of Hurdwick, Morwel, and Morwelham, the hundred of Hurdwick, otherwise called the hundred of Tavistock, the Bartons, or Granges of Hurdwick, Morwel, and Morwelham, with their appurtenances, the demesnes and manors

* Latin original in Augmentation Office.

of Milton Abbot, otherwise Milton Legh, Lamerton, Hole, Brentorre, Wyke Dabernon, Peterstavy, Ottrew, otherwise Ottery, Whitchurch, and Newton, the manor of Antony, in the county of Cornwall, the rectory and vicarage of Tavistock."*

For the service of one knight's fee, at the reserved rent of £148 5s. per annum, is granted also to the above:

"All the burgh of Denbury, the manors of Denbury, Plymstoke, Worynton, Cowyke, Exwyke, Barlegh, Alridge Cavilynch, Plymple, Wodmanstorr, Cristenstow, Boryntonand Cornwood, in the county of Devon, lately belonging to the Abbey; also the manor of Hawkewell, co. of Somerset, the rectories or churches of Whitchurch, Lamerton, Milton Abbot, alias Milton Legh, Borynton, the Chapel of Aldridge, the Rectory of St. Thomas, without the west gate of Exeter, the Rectories or Churches of Christenstowe, Okehampton, Spreyton, Anthon and Petherwyn, alias North Petherwyn, all the demesne and site of the late Monastery of Dunckeswell, the Rectory of Blackawton, parcel of the late Monastery of Torr, and the site of the late Friars, preachers within the city of Exeter, with all their lands and possessions."

Among the persons of note who were natives of Tavistock, I should have mentioned Sergeant John Maynard, designated by Clarendon "as a lawyer of great eminence, who had too much complied with the irregular and unjust proceedings of the Parliament," and described as opposing them, when their measures became illegally subversive of the royal prerogative. He was afterwards committed to the Tower by Cromwell for demanding, as Counsel in the Court of King's Bench, the release of one obnoxious to the Protector. . . .

Browne, the author of "Britannia's Pastorals," has celebrated some of the wild and romantic scenery of Tavistock, his native place.

Some collections for "a Civil and Monastic History of the Town and Abbey of Tavistock" were made by the late Mr. Edw. Smith, who possessed much antiquarian zeal and industry. Mr. Smith was a native of Tavistock, and had served during the late war as an officer in the navy. His topographical researches were terminated while he was yet in the vigour of youth and intellect by a fever, of which he died at Tavistock in the year 1827. He has left, I believe, a large collection of MSS. which are still in the possession of his aged mother.

A. J. K.

* Note in the margin of the Record: "9th Dec., 1651.—It is ordered by the trustees that the stipend of £11 be paid to the curate of Tavistock, to be fixed upon the rent for the scite of the Monastery of Tavistock, only being £36 per annum.—John Wheatly."

Tawstock House.

[1817, *Part I., p.* 489.]

I send you a view of Tawstock House, Devonshire, the seat of Sir Bourchier Wrey, Bart. (See Plate I.)

North Tawton.

[1802, *Part I., p.* 19.]

About 200 years ago the Cottel family of Devonshire resided in a house near North Tawton, in Devon, which was built by a Mark Cottel in or about 1500. On the porch is the date 1555, evidently of more modern date than the house. In the parlour chamber, over the mantlepiece, are the arms of the Cottel family (fig. 6) stamped in plaster, as are the ceilings of many of the rooms. The house is much out of repair at present.

[1803, *Part I., p.* 305.]

I send you the sketch (Plate I., fig. 1) of Barton House, in North Tawton, Devon. The house had formerly a right wing, which was cut down about 50 years ago.

East Teignmouth.

[1793, *Part II., pp.* 785, 786.]

Halfway from Dawlish, at the little village of Holecombe, a lane conducts to the shore. Here the sea has worn the cliff into caverns, beating hard against a promontory, and separating the looser parts from the more solid rock; this is a distinguishing point, from the singularity of a wide opening like the arch of a rustic bridge, and of a high mass of rock which stands detached and as a pillar amid the waves, marking the country, and known to it by the vulgar appellation of "The Parson and Clerk."

This is distant a mile and a half from Teignmouth, and the intermediate sands being at low-water hard and even, and sheltered by the mountainous cliffs when the north wind blows, are traversed on horseback or on foot by the company who resort to the town. Almost the first object which presents itself on approaching the town from this quarter is the church of East Teignmouth, of which, from the evident claims that it has on antiquity, and the uncommonness of the building, I give you a sketch (see Plate II., fig. 1).

The date of the erection of this church, or rather tower, of East Teignmouth is unknown. The style of architecture carries it back into the early periods of Christianity, and with probability it may be referred to the Normans. The round tower connected with the square one, the windows narrow with semicircular arches, and the corbels (heads of men or animals, etc., placed as ornamental supports to the parapet), are marks of a Saxon or Norman origin.

The scenery of this part is singularly picturesque; a fine range of shore trends to the east and west at least two miles; the perforated rock and the Clerk are conspicuous on the one point, and the Ness at Shaldon, with its village, on the other. The church and tower, with a group of handsome buildings, and the cliffs (of the reddest tints), scooped out by the spray from the surges that beat against them, rise one above another in a grand and uncommon succession. Camden dates the arrival of the Danes A.D. 800, but Risdon protracts it for near two centuries. Their first attempt on this place, where they slew the king's lieutenant, having been successful, they took it for a favourable omen, and with such inhuman barbarities they so prosecuted their conquests that the very cliff (here red) seems (says the historian) yet to memorize the bloodshed and calamities of the time. Hence there arises a solution to this singular phenomenon, and naturalists, who have hitherto been puzzled for a cause why the earth in these parts of Devon, and particularly around Exeter, possessed that deep red hue, may thus find it easily accounted for. Nor have the Danes been the only foes to Teignmouth. In later times it has suffered to as great an extent from the French. But it was then a poor place. Like the phœnix, with superior beauty it has risen from its ashes; its houses, compared to what they were of yore, are palaces; its inns are good, and its accommodations equal, if not superior, to any other place of summer resort in Devon. From the Den, a vast sand-bank expanding before the town, over which a walk has been lately laid of superior beauty, the prospect is enchanting; the river Teign, when the tide is out, is beheld making a sweep around the lower part of West Teignmouth, and is then not more than a gunshot broad; but at high-water the narrow stream is converted into a most noble expanse of water, and what were sandbanks in the space of a few hours have assumed the appearance of an estuary. At this spot the bustle and importance of commerce attract the attention. Here stands the custom-house, and here the axe of the shipwright and the mallet of the caulker are seen. Hence also is seen, in a very picturesque manner, the more mercantile parts of the town. The hedgerows and the orchards behind form a fine contrast to the houses, and give them a pleasing relief. But the view up the river is the most bewitching; it is one of those which the eye dwells on with delight, and without wearisomeness. The width from shore to shore is full half a mile, nor is the space contracted for a considerable way, the tide flowing as far as the town of Newton Bushel, and the scenery on either of its shores is of the most rural and pleasing kind, rich in wood, and intermingled with gentlemen's seats, villages, and hamlets. Such is Teignmouth. . . .

J. S.

Tiverton.

[1828, *Part I., pp.* 9, 10.]

The view sent herewith (see the Frontispiece to this volume) is of a porch situated on the south side of St. Peter's Church, Tiverton, an edifice which is said to have been first built in the year 1073, and consecrated by Leofricus, first Bishop of Exeter.

The porch itself was originally erected in the year 1517, by the munificence of John Greneway, merchant, who was born at Tiverton, of parents in a low station, about 1460. He lived, therefore, at a time when the woollen manufacture was in its infancy, and consequently afforded greater proportionate profits. By his diligence in this employ he acquired in a short time considerable property, and in the course of a few years became very rich. Having no descendants he employed his property during his lifetime in various public works, taking down and rebuilding the south aisle of the church, erecting a chapel in front, founding almshouses, etc.

He is described in the "Memoirs of Tiverton" as "a worthy member of society, frugal and industrious in the early part of life, animated in the beneficial pursuit of trade and commerce, generous and bountiful in age."

Being in a state of considerable decay, this curious porch was taken down and rebuilt in the year 1825, so as to constitute a facsimile of the original ornaments and decorations. At the time of its original erection in 1517, Catherine de Courtenay, Countess of Devon (widow of William Courtenay, first of that name, Earl of Devon), inherited the lordship and manor of Tiverton. Hence in the centre are the arms of Courtenay quartered with the royal arms of England, she being the seventh and youngest daughter of King Edward IV. She died in the castle of Tiverton, November 15, 1527, and was buried with great funeral pomp in the chapel belonging to the Earls of Devon there on December 2nd following. The shield appears to be supported on one side by a knight trampling on a serpent, probably designed to represent St. George and the dragon. The other supporter, apparently the figure of a female, cannot be so easily understood. Immediately underneath is a scroll bearing the following inscription:

"In tyme and space, God send grace (John Greenway) to p^{y} for me, y^{t} ye hate begone [gate begun]."

On either side of this large shield is a smaller one, each supported by two seraphs. These bearings are nothing more than the laudable attempt of a rich merchant to typify his own industry. That on the right bears three beehives each surmounted by a cross; the other, quarterly, a beehive and the initials "I. G." combined, which were those both of the founder and his wife "Johan." Immediately over those two shields are two large roses, probably intended to compliment the lady of the manor as a scion of the white rose of York.

The other shields, of which there are several, bear only the initials "I. G." combined.

As to the figures on the battlement, it is now almost impossible to say whom they were designed to represent, or to what events they referred. The group on the right side nearest the centre appear to represent the Conversion of St. Paul. A figure appears to have just fallen from his horse, which is in the act of springing away, while the attendants are evidently gazing with surprise at the bewildered appearance of the rider. The group, again, nearest the centre on the left side appear to consist of a Christian bishop with his pastoral crook, in the act either of catechizing or superintending the prayers of the three figures beside him. The group at the other extremity of the same side are represented as in a vessel at sea, but whether they refer to a sacred subject, or one of the naval adventures of the founder, or his merchandize, it is quite impossible to determine. Those appear to me to be the only groups of which even a probable conjecture can be made of the subjects to which they refer. On each side of the gateway is a niche, which was doubtless tenanted originally by some of the numerous saints of the Romish Church; and various ornaments of different kinds, such as woolpacks, anchors, distorted heads, etc., are scattered about in great profusion. The inside of this porch is also deserving of attention. The ceiling is composed of a cluster of roses, and over the door leading to the church is a very highly finished piece of sculpture, representing John and Joan Greneway at their several devotions, surrounded with all the paraphernalia of Roman worship.

The whole of the renovated sculpture was executed by Mr. William Beck of this town.

Over the front gateway on the inside is the following inscription:

"This porch, erected in 1517, was taken down and rebuilt 1825. James Somers and Thomas Haydon, Churchwardens."

Yours, etc., A. B.

[1802, *Part I., p.* 105.]

If you insert the view of Exe Bridge, Tiverton (Plate I.), you will greatly oblige your numerous readers in its vicinity. This ancient bridge has for two ages withstood the impetuous current of the river Exe when rose to an amazing height by the melting of the snow. It has lately been considerably widened, and the wall on one side removed to give room for a raised causeway railing, which projects some feet over the water. The temple which is seen on the left, together with the surrounding grounds, belongs to Thomas Phillips, Esq., of Collipriest, a beautiful and pleasant situation near the banks of the river. C. S.

[1802, *Part I., p.* 418.]

I beg to remark, in addition to the account of Exe Bridge, inserted in p. 105, that it appears by Dunsford's "History of Tiver-

ton" to have been built by one Walter Tyrryl, a mercer, about the year 1568. Whilst I am mentioning Tiverton, permit me to observe that the author of the history of that town has been scrupulously exact in copying the epitaphs on those tombs which are raised to the memory of his relatives, whilst an inscription from the pen of a much admired and justly-esteemed dramatic writer, to the memory of her daughter, is shamefully mutilated. I cannot, therefore, refrain from troubling Mr. Urban with a correct copy, which I took a few years since [omitted].

Yours, etc., ADAM HENJEYS.

[1794, *Part I., p.* 18.]

Enclosed is a very accurate representation (Plate II., fig. 7) of a shoe, fabricated in the sixteenth century, and discovered, by mere chance, in the hollow of the wall of an old house near Tiverton, in Devonshire. In the days of good Queen Bess, a shoemaker made the original, of which this is a faithful portrait. Its owner must have been in the habit of economy, as the shoe, or, if you please, sandal, seems to have been frequently under the hands of the cobbler, who was not sparing in the nail, in the Devonshire language termed "sparable," a nail without a head. The upper leather was certainly a very delicious repast for the worm, as its invasions are very visible. The wall which covered or, rather, enclosed it, was thought solid, until demolished; and this formal piece of antiquity was traced in the northern corner of an old oven, where it was accidentally left for the purpose of recovering its elasticity. Some of your correspondents, perhaps, may tell us to whom this shoe belonged, as it carries as much heraldic ornament with it as needs be. The upper leather is the double tanned, and, but for the erasure of part by the depredation of the worm, it seems capable of wearing out another century. I remain, Sir, yours, a frequent correspondent, though under different signatures, F. S.

Totnes.

[1829, *Part II., pp.* 307-310.]

The town of Totnes is pleasantly situated on the west bank of the river Dart, "along from the toppe of a high rokky hille, onto the roote of it by Est," twenty-two miles from Exeter, and about the same distance from Plymouth. It contains 346 houses, disposed principally into one long street; the number of inhabitants is computed at 3,128. It sends two members to Parliament.

We learn from Camden and other authors* that this was anciently a town of great consequence and privilege, paying taxes only when Exeter, Lidford, and Barnstaple did. It was formerly surrounded

* An old topographical essay, styled "The Antiquitye and Description of Totnesse, Devonshire, from Westcott's Manuscript," is printed in the "Topographer," vol. i., pp. 195-211.—Edit.

by walls, having four gates, two only of which are now standing, one on the north near the castle, the other (the east gate) in the centre of the town. The latter has evidently been rebuilt; over it is a dwelling-house. The houses within this gate (or street) present a very antiquated appearance, the upper stories in general projecting over the under; those adjacent the market-place are supported by piazzas.

The church, guildhall, and ruins of the castle are on the north of the town.

The church, the beauty of which is defaced by tasteless modern additions, is built of red sandy stone, with granite ornaments, and consists of a nave, chancel, and two aisles, with a handsome lofty tower at the west end; a transept has lately been added to the north aisle, in which is a gallery for the accommodation of the charity children.

The interior has rather a venerable appearance. There is a beautiful stone screen of tabernacle work, painted and gilt; the pulpit is also of stone, and is ornamented with the devices of the twelve tribes of Israel. It contains an organ, and a few neat monuments.

In the south aisle, within the screen, on a Gothic monument in the wall, partly hid by a pew, is this fragment of an inscription in black letter:

"Here lyeth Walter Smyth, who dyed the VIII day of Nov'b^{r}, in the yere——"

Near it is a neat monument, with this inscription:

"Near lyeth y^{e} body of Mr. Thomas Martin, batchelor, who exchanged this life for a better, y^{e} 18th day of Ianv^{y}, 1690, aged 58 years, who gave the lands of a house and meadow in Barnstaple, for ever, to y^{e} poor of Totnes, to be given in bread every lord's day, in this isle, as is exprest in his last will and testament."

On a small tablet in the transept (probably removed from the wall pulled down on the erection of this part of the church) are the following lines:

Here lyeth Grace, a flower gay,
Far passing all the flowers of May,
A flower to her parents deare,
Euen at the spring time of the yeare;
Was pluckt and fetcht as fitt to bee
In hands of highest majestie;
Then let us all prayse God for this,
That shee is crown'd with endless bliss.

"Grace Gryles dyed the 27th of Aprill, An'o Dom. 1636."

On the south side of the chancel is an altar tomb, bearing the date of 1616; on it are the effigies of four women and a man, but the inscription is nearly illegible. On the north side is a monument, erected in 1702, commemorative of several members of the Wise family.

The altar piece is composed of a semi-dome, supported by

Corinthian columns, which ill accord with the rest of the church. A spiral stone staircase leads from the chancel to the ancient rood-loft over the screen, adjoining which is the library, a small room containing a few neglected, worm-eaten old books, covered with dust; among them I remarked the Homilies of St. Chrysostom, Latin, 1514; Fox's Works, 1610; Bible, 1613; the Works of the Most High and Mighty Prince James, King of Britain, etc., published by James, Bishop of Winton, 1616; Succession of English Monarchs; and the Works of Reynolds the Nonconformist.

I observed a small wooden tablet lying loosely in a niche at the bottom of the above-named staircase, with the following inscription and arms:

"GVALTERO GOODRIDGE GENEROSO . OBIIT XIII° DIE AVGVSTI A° D° 1626."

Sable, a fess argent.

In a pew is an inscription commemorative of Maud, Prioress of Cannington in 1317, engraved in your vol. lxxxii., ii., 113, and explained by William Hamper, Esq., F.S.A., *ibid.*, p. 224.

In the belfry is a brass chandelier, with an inscription on it, purporting it to be the gift of the ringers in 1732.

In 1799 the church was considerably injured by lightning, by which means a small room over the south porch was discovered, in which was a box of papers, among which was a grant of forty days' indulgence from Bishop Lacy to all those who should in any way assist in rebuilding the church of Totnes. This prelate was translated from Hereford to Exeter in 1420, he died in 1445, and was buried in the choir of Exeter Cathedral. From his reputed holiness, pilgrimages were performed at his tomb, and many miracles are said to have been wrought there.

In the churchyard, against the south wall of the church:

"Here vnder lyeth interred y^e^ body of John Vavissor, son of Richard Vavissor of this towne, gent. who departed this life the third day of March, 1676, aged 75 years. . . ."

On a headstone near the north door is an inscription [omitted].

Near the church is the Guildhall, a plain ancient building. Above the seats of the mayor and aldermen are the arms of King Edward VI., supported by a lion and dragon; the date 1543, and motto Du et mond droyt, etc., and a tablet with the names of all the benefactors, and what each gave towards the reparation of the late breach that diverted the water from running to the ancient mills of the town of Totnes, A.D. 1703. Thomas Colson, Esq., a Member of Parliament for this borough, £300; Mr. Richard Landon of this town, merchant, £50.

In another part of the hall are these two sentences, with the date 1673 [omitted].

The council-chamber is a handsome old-fashioned room, with seats, etc., similar to those in the hall. Over the chimney-piece

are the town arms, the gate of a fortress flanked by circular turrets, and the words IVSTICE, EQVITIE. On the window-bench is a monumental inscription on a small brass plate (probably removed from the church):

"Here lye interr'd the bodyes of John Kelland of Totnes, merchant, and Mary his wife, ye davghter of John Wise the elder of Totnes, mercha't. He dyed the xix^th^ of November, 1632, being at ye age of XLVII yeares. His wife deceased ye IIII^th^ of July, 1624. They had issue II sonnes and V davghters then living."

The ruins of the castle are a little to the west of the church and Guildhall; they consist of a circular keep, moat, and a few remnants of walls. The keep stands on a lofty artificial mound, overgrown with shrubs; the outer wall is perfect, and picturesquely clothed with ivy. It encloses an area of nearly a quarter of an acre, and from the battlements there is a delightful prospect of the vale of Dart. Fragments of the town walls also remain.

This town likewise boasts a grammar-school, lazar-house, several almshouses, and a charity school. The grammar-school was founded in 1554, and further liberally endowed by the trustees of Elizeus Hele, Esq., of Cornwood, co. Devon, who bequeathed a considerable property to pious and charitable purposes in various parts of this county.

The charity school is near the church; it is an old building, supported by a spacious piazza. On one of the pillars is the word RYCHARD, and on its fellow, LEE; in another part are the initials R. L.

Near the river is a fine avenue of trees called the "Walk," affording an agreeable promenade for the inhabitants; at one end is a small building representing the town arms; through it is the entrance to a rural lane, in which are the remains of a chapel, consisting of the west, east, and part of the north walls; it has been desecrated many years.

On the beach is the very stone on which (according to the old chronicler) Brutus the Trojan first put his foot when he landed in Britain, and

> "The gods lookt cheerefull on his course,
> The wind hee had at will;
> At Totnesse shore, that happy haven,
> Arriu'd hee and stood still."

At the north-east of the town stands the priory, but so modernized that little else besides the name is left to tell what it originally was. It was founded, according to Leland, by Judael de Totnes, soon after the conquest, for Cluniac monks, and dedicated to the Virgin Mary, but Risdon says it was by one Roger Newman. Its revenues at the suppression were valued at £124 10s. 2d. a year, and the site was granted to the Champernowne family. There was also an alien priory, suppressed with the other alien houses in 1414.

Totnes was formerly a place of great traffic, and its merchants

were noted for their wealth, "but" (says Leland) "the river of Darte by tynne workes carieth much sand to Totenes bridge, and chokith the depth of the ryver downeward," by which the haven has been greatly injured. It still has some manufactories of serges, and carries on a tolerable coasting trade. It is connected with the little town of Bridgetown Pomeroy by a handsome modern bridge, finished about two years since; the old one, supposed to have been built in the reign of Stephen, becoming exceedingly dangerous, made a new one necessary. . . .

Totnes, with Barnstaple, was given by William the Conqueror to Judael, a Norman knight, who took his surname from it, De Totnes. He built the castle, and was probably the founder of the alien priory. Henry II. gave this honour to Sir Reginald Brues; his family afterwards falling into disgrace, it was taken from them by John, who incorporated the town, and made Henry, son of the Earl of Cornwall, governor of the castle. The privileges of the borough were considerably augmented by Edward I. In the reign of Henry III. the county of Devon was extended from the Dart to the Tamar,* and Totnes, which had hitherto been a Cornish town,† became seated in the midst of Devon; from this time the Cornish language‡ began to decline in the South Hams.

Totnes was afterwards restored to the Brues. One of their heiresses brought it to the family of Cantalupe; from them, also

* When Athelstan, by the defeat of Howel, the last King of Damnonia, in 932, extended his territories to the Tamar, he made that river the boundary between his kingdom and the Cornish; but the Britons between it and the Dart submitting to him, were permitted to retain their possessions and enjoy their ancient language and customs (hence the similarity between the Cornish and Devonshire people); and, although they became English subjects, their country was considered part of Cornwall.

† "Belinus, vero filius Molmucii, quatuor regales vias per insulam fecit, quarum prima et maxima dicitur Fossa, ab Austro in Boream extensa, quæ incipit *in angulo* Cornubiæ *apud* Tottenesse, tendens per Devoniam, Somersetiam," etc., etc.—See Gale's Essay on the Great Roman Roads, at the end of the sixth volume of Leland's "Itinerary," printed at Oxford 1711.

‡ All that remains of this ancient language is alone to be met with in the portfolio of English antiquaries. A grammar, vocabulary, two or three mysteries, and a few proverbs, is all that is left of its literature; for the Cornish, unlike the Welsh, seem ashamed of the tongue of their fathers, and do nothing to preserve it from oblivion. Perhaps the epitaph of Dolly Pentreath, the last person to whom it was vernacular, may not be unacceptable to some of your readers:

"Coth Doll Pentreath canz ha Deaw,
Marir en Bedans en Powl plew,
Na en an Eglar, ganna Poble brag,
Bet en Eglar-Hay coth Dolly es!"

English.

"Old Doll Pentreath, one hundred aged and two,
Deceased and buried in Paul parish too,
Not in the church with people great and high,
But in the church-yard doth old Dolly lie!"

by an heiress, it became the property of the Zouches; the last of that line, John Lord Zouch, an adherent of Richard III., was attainted in the reign of Henry VII. and his estates confiscated. That king then bestowed this town on his favourite, Sir Richard Edgcumbe; Piers, one of his descendants, sold the manor of the borough to the Corporation in 1559, reserving the right of burgessship to his heirs for ever, and a rent of £21 a year, to be paid to the owner of the castle. The castle, royalties, etc., were afterwards purchased of him, by Seymour, Duke of Somerset, whose descendants still retain them.

JOS. CHATTAWAY.

[1851, *Part I.*, *pp.* 378, 379.]

The shore of Totnes enters into the very earliest legends of our island: for here it was, according to Geoffrey of Monmouth, that the Trojan Brutus first set his foot on shore,* when he came to give his name to Britain.

Totnes was already a borough in the days of King Edward the Confessor, and was held in demesne by the king himself. It contained at the Domesday survey ninety-five burgesses within its walls, and fifteen outside, who tilled the land of the manor. Amongst them all they paid eight pounds by tale; formerly they had paid three pounds by weight, and arsure.† It is added that this borough did not pay geld, except when Exeter was taxed for the same, and then it paid forty pence (Exeter paying one mark). If any expedition was made by land or by sea, then Totenais, Barnstaple, and Lydford paid among them‡ as much as Exeter; which city paid as much as was due from five hydes of land, as we learn from the following passage of the same record under Exeter:

"Et quando expeditio ibat per terram aut per mare, serviebat ista civitas quantum v. hidæ terræ; et Toteneis et Lideforda et Barnestable serviebant quantum et predicta civitas."

Leland states in his Itinerary that "King John gave the first privilege of a mayoralty to Totnes, and King Edward I. augmented its liberties;" but both these statements are controverted by Mr. Cotton (p. 3). In opposition to the first, (which had been repeated by Camden and Browne Willis), Mr. Lysons (p. 532) remarks that "it does not seem that they had a mayor before the reign of Henry VII., who granted them the power to elect a mayor annually, on St.

* A block of granite, the unsculptured monument of this event, still remains in the Corn Market. "It was the custom for the town clerk to stand upon this stone to read the King's proclamations" (p. 32). How can Mr. Cotton proceed to palliate the barbarism which levelled this time-hallowed stone, about 18 inches, to the level of the pavement? What now remains has a superficial surface of about 2 feet in length and 18 inches in width, shaped like a kidney bean. (*Ibid.*)

† *I.e.*, the loss consequent upon testing the money by fire.

‡ Mr. Lysons ("Britannia," p. 532) has misrepresented this statement, saying that Totnes alone rendered the same services as Exeter.

Matthew's day." Mr. Cotton gives a translation (p. 88) of the charter granted by King John, which constituted Totnes a free borough, with a guild of merchants. This, it is true, does not mention the designation of the chief magistrate; but guilds were usually presided over by mayors, and, as the parliamentary writs were always directed (see Palgrave, i., 55), "to the mayor and bailiffs of Totnes," this evidence sufficiently proves that on this point Leland was right, and Lysons wrong. By the "augmentation of liberties" granted by Edward I. and for which Mr. Cotton has in vain consulted the charters of the town, Leland no doubt alluded to the privilege of sending members to Parliament, which commenced in that reign. Though somewhat exceeded in population by Ashburton, a town lying about eight miles to the north, on the direct road from London to Plymouth, Totnes has retained its pre-eminence, for it still continues to send two representatives to Parliament, whilst Ashburton was reduced to one member by the Reform Act of 1832. . . .

The castle of Totnes is said, by old tradition, to have been built by Judhel of Johel, the Domesday lord, to whom the town was granted by the Conqueror. Leland, in the reign of Henry VIII., found "the castelle waul and the stronge dungeon maintained; but the logginges of the castelle be in ruine." . . .

It was sold for the sum of £300 in the year 1591, by Christopher and Allan Savery, to the Lord Edward Seymour; and in the possession of the Duke of Somerset, the descendant of the latter, it still remains. In its general plan it bears much resemblance to the castle at Plympton. Its inclosure, containing several acres, was irregular in form, and surrounded by a moat or dyke. On an artificial mount, of considerable elevation, and rising conspicuously above the town, was placed the keep, circular in form, which is characteristic of its great antiquity. Trees of very large size are flourishing within the area, and form now the canopy of public walks, which the liberality of the Duke of Somerset has opened to the use of the town. (See the Plate.)

The town itself was fortified by walls of stone, and had four gates of entrance, two of which still remain. The eastern gate, now called the Archway, stands in the centre of the present High Street, and has been widened to admit a freer passing of carriages. Above this gate is a handsome room, decorated with carvings and panelling of the time of Henry VIII.

The north gate, which is near the castle, is in decay, and nearly covered with ivy, and consequently assimilates well with the adjacent ruins.

The corporation seal (as shown in the engraving) may be taken to represent either the castle, or one of the town gates. What may be typified by the two keys we are not informed. The legend is:

Sigillum combuitates magne tottonie.

Uffculme.

[1808, *Part II., p.* 1057.]

In the register of burials in the parish of Uffculme, Devon, which commenced in the year 1538, on vellum, and now in a state of perfect preservation; the entries of which, being in a masterly hand, in the office or secretary style, were made, most probably, not by the clergyman, but by some person whose office it was to make such entries;* it appears, that in the year 1551, there was a very great mortality; and towards the end of August and beginning of September the burials for several successive days were two, three, four, and five in a day (a number very far beyond the usual average).

In the margin opposite to those entries, in the same handwriting, but much larger letters, as if to attract observation, is entered as follows:

"The hote Sickness, called Stup-gallant."

Query. What disease could be meant? I do not recollect to have met with, or heard of the name anywhere.†

In the same register also occurs the following entry:

"Anno D^ni^ 1558, April the first day, was John Pooke, gentle, christened and buried. Anno Phil. et Mar. 6."

As this man appears to have been christened and buried on the same day, is it not probable that he was either burnt, or executed as an heretic? Yours, etc., JOHN NOTT, Surgeon.

Widworthy.

[1791, *Part II., pp.* 608-611.]

This parish is situated in the hundred of Colyton, in the south east part of the county; and in one part adjoins to Dallwood, in the county of Dorset. Widworthy is rather a small parish, about eight miles in circumference, nearly resembling in form a trapezium, bounded on the west and north by Offwill, on the east by Shute, and on the south by Colyton and a small part of Northleigh. The soil varies, being in part meadow and pasture, part arable; and in the centre, on a hill, private property, though not enclosed, there is a very deep and extensive stratum of limestone, in the north-west part of the parish, which employs many of the inhabitants in burning that useful article for building and manure. There is likewise some excellent freestone from the northern and southern extremity of the limestone rock. About a mile distant from each other, issue two remarkably transparent, warm springs, which, when diverted over some meadows immediately beneath them, leave a considerable slime on the surface, and render them luxuriantly fertile. The one falls into the river Coly, the other into a rivulet on the west side of the

* On this subject, p. 913.

† The *sweating sickness* (now happily unknown in this country) was formerly of frequent recurrence; as may be seen in any of the old historians.

parish. The parish is enclosed with very good turf-hedges, on which the underwood grows fast; and the usual sorts of timber-trees are flourishing, and abound in the hedgerows and coppices. The roads made and repaired with flints are sound, but rather rough. There is only one village, Wilmington, where a fair or revel is held the Monday after St. Matthew's day. It is situated on the great Western road, which divides the parish from Offwill on the north. The houses are all thatched, except the manor house, and are neat and compact; and have all, even the cottages, gardens and a little orchard annexed to them. The inhabitants are all tenants at rack-rent. Their farms are in as good a state of cultivation as most Devonshire farms, and are from fifteen to a hundred pounds per annum. The number of houses, of every description, is about thirty-five. Reckoning six souls to a house, you will nearly have the number of parishioners; among whom are not more than three freeholders. The men are mostly employed in husbandry; the women spin wool. Benedictus Marwood, Esq., of Hornshays, in Colyton, first purchased the manor of the Chichester family, and, dying unmarried, left it to his brother Thomas, whose grandson now inherits it. Besides the manor and barton of Widworthy there are two capital estates in this parish, Cooksbays and Sutton, with large decent houses on each, built by the Marwoods about eighty years since, and twenty years before they purchased the manor of the Chichesters. See Risdon, part ii., p. 64. "Widworthy hath had divers knights so named dwellers there, and lords thereof. The last Sir William, and Sir Hugh de Widworthy his son, in the age of King Edward I. left his daughter Emma, first married unto Sir William Prouse, secondly to Sir Robert Dinham, Knights. These lands remained divers descents in the name of Prouse, until by an heir of Wootton, that had wedded an heir of Prouse, it was carried into the family of Chichester of Raleigh, who gave this manor unto John his son, which he had by his second wife, the daughter of Bryett."

The manor house is situated near the church, a large old building, in form of a quadrangle, the undoubted residence of De Widworthy, Knt., the founder of the church. The front of the building is of more modern erection than the three other sides. Over the porch are the arms of the Chichesters, viz., Checky, a chief vairy; crest, on a helmet, an ostrich with a bit of iron in its mouth, in lead. In the ceiling of the hall is the date 1616.

The highest point of Widworthy Hill, which is as high a hill as any in the neighbourhood, is nearly the centre of the parish, on the north-east side of which are some remains of an ancient entrenchment; and near the church, on an eminence having a descent every way, in a field still called Castle Wood, are remains of a small entrenchment. In the northern extremity of the parish there is a remarkably large flint-rock, five feet in height and four in width and depth, known

by the name of gray-stone; and nearly opposite, on the southern extremity, is another stone of nearly the same dimensions, both of them evidently placed there by design. A school was founded by one Searl, but, having been endowed with a leasehold estate, is fallen into hand. A house and school have been since given by James Marwood, Esq., 1767; some other benefactions have increased the master's salary eight pounds per annum. No dissenting meeting or dissenters. The church is situated on a rising ground in the north part of the parish, dedicated to St. Cuthbert. It is built of flint, in the form of a Latin cross, as are all the churches I have hitherto seen dedicated to that saint. The church is a uniform building, consisting of a nave, a chancel, and a transept, and, I should suppose, was built by one of the De Widworthys, knights, though Mr. Incledon supposes it to have been built at different times. The height of the church inside is 21 feet; the extreme length within, from the altar-piece to the tower, 51 feet; the breadth of the transept, including the nave, is 36 feet. The old timber being decayed, a new roof, covered with slate, was erected in 1785, and neatly plastered within, with a handsome cornice. There is a strong square, plain tower, with battlements, in height 40 feet, with five bells; a neat wainscot altar-piece, given by Jas. Marwood, Esq.; and the church was newly-seated with wainscot by the parishioners in 1787. The font is of one solid freestone, in an octagon form, about 4 feet high, and bears evident marks of antiquity. The screen and rood-loft were taken down before my remembrance. There are several small niches for the holy water; and, on removing the old plaster when the church was lately new-roofed, the walls appeared to have been painted throughout. No stained glass. On the north wall of the chancel is a handsome marble monument, erected to the memory of some of the Izacks of Ford, who were buried here though they lived in the adjoining parish of Dallwood, co. Dorset; it bears date 1685. Arms: Sable, a bend, or; in a canton argent, a leopard's head sable, impaling, ermine, on a bend, between bendlets sable, three griffins' heads or. The rest are modern, viz., another, on the north, erected to the memory of three brothers, James Marwood, M.D., Benedictus and Thomas Marwood, Esqrs., "eminent for honesty, piety, and good economy." Arms: Gules, a chevron ermine, between three goats' heads erased ermined. On the south wall of the chancel is a monument to the memory of

"Jacobi Somaster, viri probi & rei medici periti, quam Honitoni novem per annos feliciter exercuit; 1748."

Arms: Argent, a castle between five fleurs-de-lis, within a bordure or. Crest, a portcullis. In the south transept is a very handsome monument to the memory of Robert Marwood, Esq., of Cookshays, 1755, and Mrs. Bridget Marwood, his sister, 1756, an unmeaning inscription at the bottom, "Sua præmia virtus." Arms of the Marwoods as above described. Crest to this: a goat couchant proper,

on a wreath sable and gules. In the north transept is a monument to the memory of the late James Marwood, Esq., which exceeds my description. It is executed by that celebrated statuary Bacon, and is in his happiest style. (See Plate I.) In the centre is a beautifully-enriched vase, placed upon a Roman pedestal. On the right side is a most animated figure of Justice, suspending her scale; and on the left Benevolence, reclining over a pelican in its nest, feeding its young from its breast. The delicacy and expression of their countenances, attitude, and drapery, and the harmony and just proportion of the whole rank it with the first performances of its artist. Beneath is an inscription:

"James Marwood, Esq., died April 3, 1767, aged 65. The memory of the just is blessed."

The whole is pleasingly relieved by a background of deep yellow marble, with an elegant white marble bordure rising conically to an obtuse angle over it.

Under an arch in the wall, immediately under the northern window in the same transept, lies the statue of a man, very perfect, at full length, in complete armour, with spurs; his shield, suspended by a belt from his right shoulder, hangs over his left arm, and reaches to the lower part of his thigh. His head is supported by a cushion, with a cherub on each side, his feet by a lion. His hands recline on his breast, in the attitude of prayer. On his shield are three lions rampant between five crosslets, two at the top, one in the centre, and two in the base. There is not the least vestige of an inscription, nor, I believe, was there ever any. There is no tradition in the parish whom it was intended for, though I should suppose it the founder of the church, De Widworthy, Knt. There are two large flat stones, one in the chancel, the other in the body of the church. One has its inscription quite defaced; the other the Chichester arms, with this inscription:

"DORMITORIUM IOHANIS CHICHESTER ARMIGERI QVI OBIIT NONO DIE IVNII AN'O SALVTIS 1661."

In a table over the door at the west end of the tower, on the outside, are three emblems (as at top of Plate I.), and over them some relief, but much defaced, which has the appearance of a crucifix, and on each side a person in a suppliant posture.

The following is an extract of the table of benefactions. In 1733, Robert Marwood, Esq., annually 20s. to the poor on St. Luke's day, 1741, Benedictus Marwood, Esq., the interest of £100 to the parish schoolmaster. 1767, James Marwood, Esq., 40s. yearly, and a school-room to ditto. 1769, Rev. Joseph Somaster, Rector, the interest of £100, half to the parish schoolmaster, the other to the poor, in bread, on Christmas-day. The communion-plate is handsome; a chalice and a large silver vessel for the wine, given by Mrs. B. Marwood, of Cookshays, dated 1756, and a paten, given by the late rector, Jo. Somaster, *in usum sacrosanctæ eucharistæ*, 1756, who also gave a

velvet cloth for the pulpit. The churchyard is large for the parish, being near half an acre. A large flourishing yew-tree decorates it. There are two old tombs and a few headstones, the inscriptions not remarkable. The register is in good preservation, and quite complete from 1540 to the present date, 1791. The population has been rather on the decline, though it is now increasing. . . .

The parish is a rectory; the present incumbent is William John Tucker, M.A.; the patron James Thomas Benedictus Marwood, Esq., of Sutton, who is lord of the manor, and proprietor of almost the whole parish.

The following is a list of the incumbents since the Reformation, with the date of their institutions:

Roger Slade. 1575, Bartholomew Palmer. 1610, Robert Perry. 1644, John Chichester. 1650, Samuel Periam. 1659, John Bury. 1663, Benjamin Dukes. 1695, Robert Cole.—The Chichesters patrons.

1728, Peter Stuckley.—Sir William Pole, by grant from the Chichesters, patrons for this turn.

1736, Joseph Somaster. 1769, William John Tucker.—The Marwoods patrons.

Bartholomew Cowde was instituted May 23, 1554, in the place of Robert Coyle, deprived as *uxoratus*.

The parsonage house is about half a furlong distant from the church, is an old building covered with thatch, but has some good rooms, and is not inconvenient. All tithes are payable to the rector in kind, and there is a customary *modus* of 3s. 4d. payable to the rector for every pit of lime burned in the parish, and the manor mills pay an annual *modus* of ten groats. W. J. Tucker.

[1800, *Part II., p.* 785.]

August ... The manor-house of Widworthy, co. Devon, "a large old building, in form of a quadrangle, and once, in the days of chivalry and religious enthusiasm, the hospitable mansion of the family of that name, which ended in an heir-female in the reign of Edward I., but now to John Thomas Marwood, of Hornshays, in Colyton," was discovered to be on fire, and was in a few hours totally consumed, together with a house belonging to Sir William de la Pole, of Shute House, Bart.

Bishopsteignton.

[1794, *Part I., pp.* 113-114.]

There is a tower (exactly like the one I sketched at Teignmouth) in the neighbouring parish of Bishopsteignton, of which I will give you a description. I send you also enclosed a drawing (Pl. II., fig. 1) which will better illustrate the building. The style of architecture is correspondent (in regard to the towers) to that at Teignmouth. This, however, at Bishopsteignton is enriched by a doorway at the western end of the church. . . . I must not omit noticing that the

windows in the church, over this doorway, are Gothic, which (without we suppose that these were superadded at a later period) will necessarily still farther detract from its antiquity. . . .

From the consequence of the place, as well as from the sweetness of its situation, lying near the river Teign, we find that in the fourteenth century it was a residence of the bishops of Exeter; hence its name. At that time there was a famous sanctuary here, which, says an old writer, none durst violate, though it protected many wicked people, as others of that nature did through corruption; and upon that account John de Grandison, a noble Burgundian, and bishop of this diocese in the reign of Edward III., built a fine house here, that his successors (for so are the words of his will) might have a place to lay their heads if at any time their temporalities should be seized into the king's hands. But his benevolent designs were all frustrated, for his successors have lost, not only this house, but the major part of the revenues which in the time of Grandison belonged to the bishopric. The imputation of this waste rests chiefly upon Voysey, who possessed the see about the latter end of the sixteenth century, and who alienated fourteen manors out of twenty-two, and the circumstance of Babington, the successor of Voysey, passing away the manor of Crediton about the year 1595, possibly gave occasion for the enaction of a statute which prohibits ecclesiastics from alienating the revenues of the Church.

There are a few remains of this palace, which are seen in the background of the sketch beyond the church, consisting of a wall with a window or two all overgrown with ivy. Yours, etc., J. S.

Papers omitted:

1751, pp. 296, 313, Dimensions of Bideford Bridge.
1786, part ii., p. 769, New Survey of Devonshire.
1791, part ii., p. 1129, Devonshire Queries.
1796, part i., pp. 393-394, Dartmoor Ramble.
1854, part i., p. 166, Restoration of Clyst St. George.

References to other volumes of the *Gentleman's Magazine Library*:—

Prehistoric Archæology.—Caves at Blackdon Hills, Croken Tor, hill fortress at Ilfracombe, camp at Morley, bronze implements at South Tawton, stone implements at Woldfardisworthy. *Archæology*, part i., pp. 29-31, 63-64, 74, 265, 266, 284.

Stones at Bideford, stone pillar at Stowford. *Archæology*, part ii., pp. 59-61, 110.

Roman Remains.—Discoveries at East Cocket, Exeter, Modbury, Plim Bridge, Sidmouth. *Romano-British Remains*, pp, 40-46, 387, 578-9.

Architectural.—Charleton Church, Exeter. *Architectural Antiquities*, part i., pp. 171, 373; part ii., pp. 6, 212, 246, 255.

Dialect.—Devonshire dialect. *Dialect and Wordlore*, pp. 3-66, 169, 170, 194, 195, 325, 327-332.

Folklore.—Harvest customs, swordbearer at Exeter, bell tolling at Hatherleigh. *Manners and Customs*, pp. 45-46, 207-208, 216.

Twelfth Day Eve Customs, bee superstitions, sacrament-ring superstition, family tradition, witchcraft. *Popular Superstitions*, pp. 18, 19, 137, 176, 211, 242.

Dorsetshire.

DORSETSHIRE.

[1817, *Part I.*, *pp.* 30-33; 1820, *Part II.*, *pp.* 11-15, 107-111.]

Ancient State and Remains.

British Inhabitants.—Durotriges or Morini.

Roman Province.—Britannia Prima. *Stations.*—Durnovaria Dorchester; Vindogladia, Blandford, or Wimborne Minster; Londinis, Lyme Regis; Canca Arixa, Charmouth; Clavinio, Weymouth; Morinio, Wareham; Bolclaunio, Poole; Ibernium, Bere Regis; Anicetis, Stourminster-Newton; Aranus, Sherborne.

Saxon Heptarchy.—Wessex.

Antiquities.—British, the Agglestone, 400 tons weight, near Studland; Portisham Cromlech; Winterbourne and Pokeswell Druidical Circles; Badbury Rings Encampment; Roman, Maunbury Amphitheatre, Maiden Castle, and Poundbury Castra Æstiva, near Dorchester; Abbotsbury, Bindon, and Cerne Abbeys; Sherborne, Swanwick, Wareham, Wimborne Minster, Melbury Samford, and Cerne Churches; St. Catherine's Chapel, Abbotsbury; Stalbridge Cross; Corfe, Sandford, Bow and Arrow Castles; Earthworks at Abbotsbury, Badbury Rings, Bunbury, Bullbarrow or Rawlsbury Rings, Catstock, Chilcombe Camp, Cranborne, Crawford, Dudsbury, Duntishe, Eggerdon Hill, Flower's Barrow, Grime's Ditch, Hambledon Hill, Hodd Rings, Kingston Russel, Knowlton, Lambert's Castle, Milborne-Stileham, Melcomb-Horsey, Pillesdon Pen, Shaftesbury, Spettisbury Rings, Toller-Fratrum, Woodbury Hill; Maze on Leigh Common. (The Maze at Pimpern was destroyed by the plough about 1730.) Figure of a giant armed with a club, cut in the turf on Trendle Hill; West Woodyates Barrows, and British remains; Gorwell Druidical circle and Kistvaen; Milton Abbey Church, Beminster Forum Chapel, Bradford-Abbas Church-tower,

Affpiddle pulpit, Whitchurch font, Sherborne Castle, Abbey-house, and Almshouses; John of Gaunt's kitchen at Great Canford.

In Abbotsbury Abbey were buried its founders, Orcus, Steward of the Palace to Canute, and his wife Thola.

Cerne Abbey is said to have been founded by Augustin, the Apostle of the Anglo-Saxons. In it was buried St. Edwold, brother of St. Edmund the Martyr, King of East Anglia, 871. Cardinal Morton was a monk here.

In Corfe Castle King John kept his Regalia.

Milton Abbey was founded by Athelstan in 940.

Shaftesbury Nunnery was built by Alfred, 888. In it were imprisoned, in 1313, Elizabeth the wife, and Margery the daughter, of Robert Bruce, King of Scotland.

Sherborne was an Episcopal See from 705 to 1076, when it was transferred to Sarum. Among the relics in Wimborne Minster, where Ethelred I. was buried, were pieces of our Lord's manger, robe, and cross, some of the hairs of His beard, and a thorn of His crown; the blood of St. Thomas à Becket, and part of St. Agatha's thigh. Shaftesbury nunnery, of which there are now very inconsiderable remains, was the richest in England. Ethelfleda, daughter of Alfred, was its first Abbess. Edward the Martyr was first buried at Wareham, but his corpse was afterwards removed to Shaftesbury.

In Sherborne Abbey had sepulture Ethelbald, King of England, 860; Ethelbert, his brother and successor, 866; and Asser, Bishop of Sherborne, biographer of Alfred, 910.

In Tarent Crawford Abbey were entombed its founder, Ralph de Kahaines, in the reign of Richard I.; Joan, wife to Llewellyn, Prince of Wales, and natural daughter of King John, 1236; the heart of its native, Richard Poore, Bishop of Durham, and founder of Salisbury Cathedral, who died here in 1237; and Joan, Queen of Alexander II. of Scotland, and daughter of King John, 1238.

At Wareham was buried Brithric or Beorthric, the last King of Wessex, during the Heptarchy, 802; his body was afterwards removed to Tewkesbury in Gloucestershire. Edward the Martyr was buried here in 978, but removed to Shaftesbury in 980. In Wareham Castle was confined, from 1114 till his death, Robert de Belesme, Earl of Montgomery, "the greatest, richest, and wickedest man of his age."

Wimborne Minster Nunnery was founded in 713, by St. Cuthburga and St. Quinburga, sisters of Ina, King of Wessex; they were both interred here.

Present State and Appearance.

Rivers.—Allen, Axe, Birt or Brit, Breedy, Bride, Byle-brook, Cale, Cerne, Char, Corfe, Cornsbrook, Dewlish, Devils-brook, Ewern,

Frome, Fleet, Holbrook, Hook or Owke, Ivel or Yeo, Liddon, Lyme, Ladden, Milbourne, Newelle, Osmeresyate, Piddle, Parret, Simene, Stour, Shrene-water, Sherford, Seate, Sturthill or Sturkill, Sydling, Symsbury, Tarent, Terrig, Trill, Wey, and Winterbourne.

Inland Navigation.—Dorset and Somerset Canal, Poole Harbour, Stour River.

Lakes.—Luckford Lake, Abbotsbury Swannery and Decoy.

Eminences and Views.—Pillesdon Pen, Nettlecomb Fort, Flower's Barrow, Nine Barrow Down, 642 feet, Bull Barrow, East Axnolla Hill, on which are the sources of the Axe, Birt, and Simene; Lewesdon Hill, the subject of a Poem by Crow, public orator of Oxford; Trendle, Hambledon, Woodbury, Eggerdon, and Lambart's Castle Hills; Arne Beacon, Babylon Hill, Badbury Rings, Bere-Regis Camp (Fair held here from Sept. 18 to Sept. 23), Black-down, Bullbarrow Hill, Dogbury Hill, Duncliff or Dunkley Hill, Frampton Beacon, High-Stoy Hill, Hodd Hill, Horner Hill, Lichet Beacon, Longbear Down or Stockland Hill, Penbury Hill, Puncknoll, Ridgway Hill, Shaftesbury Castle-green, Shipton Hill, Strangeways Castle, Warren Hill, and Wolland Beacon.

Natural Curiosities.—Portland Peninsula, 4½ miles long, 2 miles broad, one rock or bed of freestone, of which St. Paul's, and the principal edifices in London, are built; Cave Hole in Portland; Chesil Bank; St. Adhelm's Head, off which, Jan. 6, 1786, was lost the *Halsewell* East Indiaman, when Captain Pearse, seven ladies, and 160 other persons, perished; Brownsea Island; Lullworth cove and arched rock; Nottington medicinal water; chalybeate springs at Aylwood and Faringdon, sulphureous at Nottington, Sherborne, and Sherford, saline at Chilcombe, petrifying at Bothen-wood and Sherborne; Cranborne Chase, Blakemore or White Hart, and Gillingham Forests; this county is particularly rich in extraneous fossils and antediluvian remains.

Public Edifices.—Portland Lighthouses, Weymouth Esplanade, Dorchester Gaol; Beminster Forum Almshouses and School; Bradford Forum Almshouses, bridge, pump, Church, finished 1739, cost £3,200; Bridport Pier finished 1742, Reynolds engineer; Market-house built 1786. Crawford Bridge. Dorchester Shire Hall, Hardwick architect; County Gaol, Blackburn architect, finished 1795, cost £16,179; Barracks, 610 feet long, Fentiman architect, cost £24,000; Town Hall. Gillingham School. Lyme Regis Quay; Cobb, 680 feet long; Custom House; Public Rooms; Town Hall. Melcombe Regis Assembly Rooms; Theatre. Netherbury School. Poole Town Hall, built 1572; School, 1628; Town House, 1727; Workhouse, 1739; Market-house, 1761; Custom House; Quay, 192 feet. Portland Castle. Sherborne Town Hall. Wareham Quay; Barrack, cost £26,000; Bridge, finished 1779, cost £2,932; Almshouses. Weymouth Bridge, built 1770, Donowell architect.

Seats.—Sherborne Lodge, Earl of Digby, lord-lieutenant of the county; Abbotsbury, Earl of Ilchester; Athelhampston, Sir James Long; Barton Hill, Shaftesbury, W. Bryant, Esq.; Bellvue, C. Bowles, Esq.; Berwick, — Gallop, Esq.; Bradford, Rev. W. Philips; Brownsea Castle, C. H. Sturt, Esq.; Bryanstone, E. B. Portman, Esq.; Castle Hill, Shaftesbury, late E. Ogden, Esq.; Chalmington, Wm. Bower, Esq.; Chantmarle, Sir W. Oglander, Bart.; Charborough, R. D. Grosvenor, Esq.; Charlston, Sir Wm. Knighton, M.D.; Charminster, John Meech, Esq.; Chettle, Rev. Wm. Chafin; Compton, Robert Goodden, Esq.; Cranborne Lodge, His Majesty (George III.); Cranborne Manor House, Marquis of Salisbury; Dean's Court, Sir James Hanham, Bart.; Downe Hall, (late) Wm. Downe, Esq.; Duntishe Court, Samuel Shore, Esq.; Encombe, Lord Eldon; Ewern, T. Bowyer Bower, Esq.; Fleet House, George Gould, Esq.; Frampton, F. J. Browne, Esq.; Frome, Nicholas Gould, Esq.; Gaunt, Sir Richard Carr Glyn, Bart.; Grange, John Bond, Esq.; Great Canford, Edward Arrowsmith, Esq.; Great Mintern, Admiral Digby; Hanford, Henry Seymer, Esq.; Herringstone, Edward Williams, Esq,; High Hall, H. W. Fitch, Esq.; Kingston Hall, Henry Bankes, Esq.; Kingston House, William Moreton Pitt, Esq.; Langton, J. J. Farquharson, Esq.; Leweston, Robert Gordon, Esq.; Litchet, W. Trenchard, Esq.; Loders, Sir Evan Nepean, Bart.; Lullworth Castle, Thomas Weld, Esq.; Melbury, Earl of Ilchester; Melcombe Horsey, Lord Rivers; Merley House, (late) J. W. Willett, Esq.; Milbourn St. Andrew, E. M. Pleydel, Esq.; Milton Abbey, Lady Caroline Damer; More Crichell, Charles Henry Sturt, Esq.; Moreton, J. Frampton, Esq.; Parnham, Sir William Oglander, Bart.; Piddleton, Earl of Orford; Plumber, Charles Brune, Esq.; Ranston, (late) P. W. Baker, Esq.; Rempstone Hall, John Calcraft, Esq.; Sans Souci, Claude Scott, Esq.; Sherborne House, Wm. Towgood, Esq.; Smedmore, Wm. Clavell, Esq.; Spettisbury, Joseph Jekyll, Esq.; Stalbridge, Marquis of Anglesea; Stinsford, Earl of Ilchester; Stock, Rev. H. Farr Yeatman; Sydling, Sir John Wyldbore Smith, Bart.; Tincleton, Humphrey Sturt, Esq.; Upway, G. Gould, Esq.; Whatcombe, E. M. Pleydel, Esq.; Wild Court, late Visc. Bridport; Wimborne St. Giles, Earl of Shaftesbury; Wolveton, John Trenchard, Esq.; Wotton Glanvill, James Dale, Esq.

Peerage.—Blandford Forum Marquessate to Spencer, Duke of Marlborough; Bridport Irish Barony to Hood; Cranborne Viscounty to Cecil, Marquis of Salisbury; Dorset Dukedom and Earldom to Germaine; Portland Dukedom and Earldom to Bentinck; Shaftesbury Earldom to Cooper, who is also Baron Ashley of Wimborne St. Giles; Weymouth Viscounty to Thynne, Marquis of Bath; Woodford-Strangeways Barony to Fox-Strangeways, Earl of Ilchester.

Produce.—Freestone, chalk, pipe-clay, potters' clay, wheat, barley,

flax, hemp, sheep, butter, timber, apples, cider, oxen, mackerel, oysters, herrings, salmon.

Manufactures.—Sail cloth, cables, twine, nets, shirt buttons, baize, blankets, flannel called swanskin, worsted stockings, ale, silk, woollen cloths, sacking, tarpaulins, bags, oil.

History.

A.D. 787, At Portland landed the first party of Danish robbers that visited England.

A.D. 833, Near Charmouth, indecisive battle between Egbert and and the Danes; and, 840, near the same place, indecisive battle between Ethelwolf and the Danes.

A.D. 837, In Portland, indecisive battle between the Danes and the men of Dorset, under Duke Æthelhelm, who was slain.

A.D. 876, Wareham taken, and the Castle and Nunnery burnt by the Danes, who were shortly afterwards compelled by Alfred to abandon it.

A.D. 877, Off Peverel Point, Danish fleet defeated by Alfred, and in a storm, 120 of their vessels wrecked.

A.D. 901, Wimborne, on the death of Alfred, seized by Ethelward, who claimed the Crown in right of his father Ethelbert; but he was quickly driven thence, and the town taken by Edward the Elder.

A.D. 978, At Corfe Castle, May 18, Edward "the Martyr," whilst drinking, stabbed in the back, by order of Elfrida, his stepmother.

A.D. 982, Portland plundered by the Danes.

A.D. 998, Near Wareham, Danes landed and ravaged the country.

A.D. 1003, Dorchester taken and burnt by Sueno, King of Denmark. Sherborne, Shaftesbury, and Clifton destroyed by Sueno, King of Denmark, to revenge the massacre of the Danes by Ethelred.

A.D. 1015, Cerne Abbey plundered by Canute.

A.D. 1035, At Shaftesbury, November 12th, Canute died.

A.D. 1052, Portland plundered by Earl Godwin.

A.D. 1138, Wareham town and castle seized by Robert de Lincoln for the Empress Maud.

A.D. 1139, Sherborne Castle seized by Stephen; Corfe Castle seized by Baldwin de Redvers with a body of Normans. Stephen attempted to retake it, but without success.

A.D. 1142, From Wareham Robert, Earl of Gloucester, sailed to solicit succours from the Earl of Anjou, and in his absence Stephen burnt the town and surprised the castle, defended by William, the Earl's eldest son. The castle, after an obstinate defence, under Hubert de Laci, was retaken by the Earl of Gloucester, who made

Hubert de Lincoln Governor for the Empress; and the Earl also took the Castles of Lullworth, and Bow and Arrow in Portland.

A.D. 1146, At Wareham Henry Fitz-Empress, afterwards Henry II., embarked for Anjou.

A.D. 1202, At Corfe Castle twenty-two nobles of Poictou and Anjou starved to death by order of the tyrant John.

A.D. 1205, At Wareham King John landed from France.

A.D. 1213, At Wareham Peter of Pomfret, who had prophesied that John would lose his crown before Ascension day, hanged with his son, although, the day before the time predicted, John had resigned his crown to the Pope's legate.

A.D. 1404, At Portland a body of French landed, but were repulsed and driven back to their ships.

A.D. 1471, At Weymouth, April 13, Margaret, Queen of Henry VI., her son Prince Edward, and Lord Wenlock, with some French troops, landed, and proceeded to Cerne Abbey, where they were joined by the Duke of Somerset, and Earl of Devon, whence they advanced through Somersetshire to the fatal field of Tewkesbury.

A.D. 1483, Near Poole the Earl of Richmond, afterwards Henry VII., approached in a vessel from St. Malos, but finding the shore lined with armed men, and distrusting their intentions, he sailed back to France.

A.D. 1506, Into Weymouth, January, Philip, Archduke of Austria and King of Castile, driven by storm.

A.D. 1565, Shrievalty of this county disjoined from that of Somerset.

A.D. 1588, Off Portland Bill (July) the Spanish Armada defeated by the Earl of Effingham, Lord High Admiral.

A.D. 1642, Sherborne Castle (September) successfully defended by the Marquis of Hertford against the Earl of Bedford and the Parliamentarians.

A.D. 1643, Corfe Castle heroically and successfully defended in a siege of six weeks against Sir Walter Erle and the Parliamentarians, by the Lady of Lord Chief Justice Banks. At Poole (February 20) Royalists, under the Earl of Crawford, repulsed in an attack on the town. Dorchester (August 2) taken possession of by the Earl of Caernarvon for the king. Weymouth and Portland Castle (August 9) surrendered by the Parliamentarians to the Earl of Caernarvon. Wareham (November 23) surprised, plundered, and 200 Royalists made prisoners by the Parliamentarian garrison of Poole.

A.D. 1644, Lyme Regis gallantly defended by Colonel Ceeley and Lieutenant-Colonel (afterwards Admiral) Blake, against repeated assaults of Prince Maurice and the Royalists, who lost nearly 2,000 men. Near Poole (February 18) Lord Inchiquin's Irish regiment defeated, and two pieces of ordnance taken by the Parliamentarian

garrisons of Poole and Wareham. Near Dorchester (February 20) convoy sent by Prince Rupert defeated, 100 horse and £3,000 in money taken by the garrison of Poole. At Holme Bridge (February 27) Parliamentarians from Wareham, under Captain Sydenham, defeated, and forty men slain, by Captain Purdon, of Lord Inchiquin's regiment. At Hemiock Castle (March) Parliamentarians, under Colonel Ware, defeated, and 200 prisoners taken in Lyme Regis by Lord Paulet and Sir John Berkeley. Near Poole (March 22) a detachment of Parliamentarian horse defeated and chased into the town by Sir Thomas Aston. Wareham (April) taken from the Parliamentarians, thirty-nine slain, 150 made prisoners, with thirteen pieces of ordnance, by Colonel Ashburnham. At Winterborn, Whitchurch, (April) Sir John Miller and 100 Royalists taken prisoners by a detachment from Sir William Waller's army. Between Poole and Blandford sixteen of the Queen's regiment killed, forty made prisoners, and 100 horse taken by the Parliamentarians of Poole. Weymouth (June 15), with eighty pieces of ordnance, much ammunition, and many vessels taken, by the Parliamentarians under Sir William Balfour. Blandford Forum (July) plundered by the Parliamentarians under Major Sydenham. Between Dorchester and Wareham, Lord Inchiquin and the Royalists defeated by Colonel Sydenham, twelve men slain and 160 taken prisoners, of whom seven Irishmen were afterwards hanged. Wareham (August 10) taken by the Parliamentarians under Colonel Sydenham and Sir Anthony Ashley Cooper, afterwards Earl of Shaftesbury and Lord Chancellor. At Abbotsbury (November), after a gallant resistance, Colonel Strangeways and his regiment of Royalists taken prisoners by Sir Anthony Ashley Cooper.

A.D. 1645, Sherborne Castle (August 15) defended by Sir Lewis Dyves; after a siege of sixteen days, and several assaults, taken by Sir William Fairfax and the Parliamentarians. Near Dorchester, a detachment of Parliamentarians routed by General Goring. Weymouth and Melcombe Regis successfully defended for eighteen days against the Royalists, under General Goring and Sir Lewis Dives. Siege raised February 26. Wareham (April) surprised by the Royalists. At Shaftesbury (August 2) fifty of the leaders of the Clubmen taken prisoners by General Fleetwood; and on Hamildon Hill (August 4) 4,000 of the Clubmen defeated and dispersed by Cromwell, sixty slain, 400 prisoners, and twelve colours taken.

A.D. 1646, Corfe Castle, under Colonel Anketil, taken by Colonel Bingham and the Parliamentarians. Portland (April 9) surrendered by Colonel Gollop to Vice-admiral Batten and the Parliamentarians.

A.D. 1653, Off Portland (February 18), after three days' fighting, the Dutch fleet, under Van Tromp, defeated by Admiral Blake, with the loss of eleven ships of war and thirty merchantmen.

A.D. 1672, Off Lyme, the English fleet worsted by the Dutch.

A.D. 1685, At Lyme Regis (June 11), Duke of Monmouth landed, with about 100 men, and published his declaration against James II. He remained there recruiting till the 15th, when he marched thence with an army of 2,000 foot. On the 13th, Lord Grey, with a detachment of 300 men from Lyme, surprised Bideport, but, falling to plunder, the king's forces, which lay in a wood near the town, compelled them to retire with loss. In a ditch of an enclosure in the midst of Shag's Heath, three days after the battle of Sedgemoor, in Somersetshire, the unhappy Duke was taken prisoner. Of the sixty-seven persons executed for this rebellion in this county, twelve suffered at Bridport, thirteen at Dorchester, thirteen at Lyme Regis, twelve at Sherborne, five at Wareham, two at Weymouth, and the remainder at Poole, Shaftesbury, and Wimborne Minster. John Tutchin, author of the "Observator," was sentenced by Jeffreys to be whipped through every town in the county, to be imprisoned seven years, and pay a fine of 100 marks. He petitioned to be hanged, and was pardoned.

A.D. 1688, At Sherborne Lodge, William, Prince of Orange, was joined by George, Prince of Denmark, the Dukes of Ormond and Grafton, and Lord Churchill, afterwards Duke of Marlborough.

A.D. 1747, At Poole (October 7), the Custom House broken open about twelve o'clock in the day, by about sixty armed smugglers, who carried off 4,200 lb. of tea. Many of the gang were afterwards taken and executed.

Biography.

Ashton, Thomas, divine, Wareham, 1716.

Baley, Walter, physician to Elizabeth, Portisham, 1527.

Basket, Thomas, soldier, Dewlish (died 1520).

Bastard, Thomas, poet and divine, Blandford (died 1618).

Bingham, Sir Richard, commander in Irish wars, temp. Eliz., Bingham's Melcombe.

Bridport, Giles de, Bishop of Salisbury, consecrated 1256, Bridport.

Bush, John, Nonconformist, author of sermons, Gillingham, 1631.

Case, John, empiric, Lyme Regis (flor. temp. Jac. II.).

Chapman, John, divine and critic, Wareham, 1704.

Churchill, Sir Winston, author of "Divi Britannici," Wooton Glanville, 1620.

Clark, Richard, navigator, Weymouth (shipwrecked 1583).

Cooper, Anthony Ashley, first Earl of Shaftesbury, statesman, Wimborne St. Giles, 1621.

Coram, Thomas, founder of the Foundling Hospital, Lyme Regis, 1668.

Creech, Thomas, poetical translator, Blandford, 1659.

Doddington, George Bubb, Lord Melcombe, politician and poet, 1691.

Englebert, William, engineer to Elizabeth and James, Sherborne (died 1634).

Gildon, Charles, critic, poet, and dramatic writer, Gillingham, 1665.

Gill, Roger, *lusus naturæ*, having a ruminating stomach, Wimborne, 1760.

Glisson, Francis, physician, Rampisham (died 1677).

Granger, James, biographical historian, Shaftesbury, 1776.

Hallet, Joseph, Nonconformist divine and author, Bridport (died 1688).

Hardy, Samuel, author of "Guide to Heaven," Frampton, 1636.

Hussey, Giles, portrait painter, Marnhull, 1710.

Hutchins, John, historian of the county, Bradford Peverel, 1698.

Lambe, Philip, Nonconformist divine and author, Cerne Abbas, 1622.

Larkham, Thomas, Nonconformist divine and author, Lyme Regis, 1601.

Lewis, John, divine and antiquary, Poole, 1675.

Lindsay, Thomas, Archbishop of Armagh, Blandford, 1654.

Lisle, Samuel, Bishop of Norwich, Blandford.

Mather, Nathaniel, Nonconformist divine and author, Dorchester, 1630.

Miller, James, poet and dramatic writer, 1703.

Morton, John, Cardinal, Archbishop of Canterbury, Bere Regis, 1409.

Morton, Robert, Bishop of Worcester (died 1497).

Pitt, Christopher, poet, translator of Virgil, Blandford, 1699.

Prior, Matthew, poet, Wimborne, 1664.

Russel, John, first Earl of Bedford, statesman, Kingston Russel (died 1554).

Russel, Thomas, poet, Beminster, 1762.

Ryves, Bruno, Dean of Windsor, author of "Mercurius Rusticus," Blandford, 1596.

Ryves, George, Warden of Winchester, divine, Blandford.

Ryves, Sir Thos., civilian, author of "Sea Battles," Little Langton (died 1652).

Sagittary, Frederick, physician, Blandford, 1661.

Stafford, John, Archbishop of Canterbury, Chancellor of England (died 1452).

Stillingfleet, Edward, Bishop of Worcester, author of "Origines Sacre," Cranborne, 1635.

Summers, Sir George, discoverer of Bermudas, Lyme (died 1610).

Swaffield, John, Nonconformist, author of Sermons, Dorchester, 1625.

Sydenham, Thomas, physician, Winford Eagle, 1624.

Templeman, Peter, physician, Dorchester, 1711.

Thompson, William, with one man and a boy, took a French privateer and sixteen men, in 1695, Poole.

Thornhill, Sir James, painter, Melcombe Regis, 1676.

Towers, Joseph, biographical, critical, and political writer, Sherborne, 1737.

Turberville, James, Bishop of Exeter, consecrated 1555, Bere Regis.

Turberville, Sir Pagan, one of the conquerors of Glamorgan in 1091, Bere Regis.

Wake, Edward, establisher of Corporation of Sons of the Clergy, Blandford.

Wake, William, loyalist divine, and sufferer, Wareham (died 1661).

Wake, William, Archbishop of Canterbury, polemic writer, Blandford, 1657.

Walpole, Horace, Earl of Orford, polite writer, Wareham, 1717.

Wesley, Samuel, divine and poet, Winterbourn Whitchurch, 1666.

Wheler, Maurice, first publisher of Oxford Almanack, in 1673, Wimborne St. Giles.

Willis, Browne, antiquary, Blandford St. Mary, 1682.

Winniffe, Thomas, Bishop of Lincoln, Sherborne, 1584.

Eminent Natives.

Ashley, Sir Anthony, first brought cabbages into England from Holland (died 1628).

Barker, Henry, divine (died 1645).

Bingham, George, divine, answerer of Lindsay, Melcombe Bingham, 1715.

Bingham, Robert, Bishop of Salisbury, Melcombe Bingham (died 1246).

Blandford, Walter, Bishop of Worcester, Melbury Abbas, 1619.

Chafin, William, divine, anecdotist of Cranbourne Chase, Chettle, 1733.

Coker, John, author of "Survey of Dorsetshire," Mapouder (died 1635).

Corfe, William de, Provost of Oriel, Deputy at Council of Constance, Corfe Castle.

D'Ewes, Sir Symonds, antiquary, author of "Parliaments of Eliz.," Coxden, 1602.

Erle, Sir Walter, Colonel, Parliamentarian, Charborough (died 1665).

Frampton, Robert, Bishop of Gloucester, Pimpern, 1622.

Frampton, Tregonwell, "father of the turf," Moreton, 1641.

Freke, Sir Thomas, benefactor, rebuilt the church, Ewern Courtney, 1563.

Gibbon, Nicholas, divine, loyalist, Poole, 1605.

Gower, Humphrey, divine and scholar, Master of St. John's, Cambridge, Dorchester, 1637.

Gregory, Arthur, assistant to Secretary Walsingham, Lyme Regis (died about 1604).

Gundry, Nathaniel, judge, Lyme Regis (died 1754).

Jane, Thomas, Bishop of Norwich, Milton Abbas (died 1500).

Jolyff, George, physician, discovered the Vasa Lymphatica, East Stour (died 1655).

Jordan, Ignatius, merchant, moral legislator, Lyme Regis, 1561.

Laurence, Thomas, scholastic divine, Master of Baliol, Oxford (died 1657).

Laurence, William, lawyer, author on Marriage and Primogeniture, Wraxhall, 1611.

Maltravers, Sir John, cruel keeper of Edward II., Litchet Maltravers (died 1364).

Martin, Thomas, civilian, Cerne Abbas (died 1589).

Mew, Peter, Bishop of Winchester, Purse Candel, 1618.

Mockett, Richard, divine, author of "De Politia Ecclesiæ," Dorchester, 1577.

Napier, Sir Robert, Chief Baron in Ireland, Puncknoll (died 1615).

Oram, Samuel March, poet, Shaftesbury.

Pikes, William, Roman Catholic martyr, Dorchester (suffered 1591).

Pitt, Robert, physician, author of "Frauds of Physic," Blandford Forum, 1652.

Poore, Richard, Bishop of Durham, founder of Salisbury Cathedral, Tarent Crawford, 1237.

Riccard, Sir Andrew, merchant, President of the East India and Turkey Companies, Portisham, 1604.

Rogers, Robert, benefactor, founder of almshouses, Poole (died 1601).

Ryves, John, divine, Blandford Forum (died 1665).

Saywell, William, divine, Master of Jesus College, Oxford, Pentridge (died 1701).

Stone, William, loyal divine, Wimborne Minster, 1610.

Strangeways, Giles, Colonel, loyalist, Melbury Stamford, 1615.

Sydenham, William, Colonel, Parliamentarian, Winford Eagle, 1615.

Thompson, Sir Peter, antiquary and collector, Poole, 1698.

Thornton, William, divine, Principal of Hart Hall, Oxford, Sherborne (died 1707).

Trenchard, Sir John, Secretary of State to William III., Litchet Maltravers, 1648.

Trenchard, Sir Thomas, entertained Philip, King of Castile, Litchet Maltravers.

Turberville, George, poet, Winterbourn Whitchurch, (flor. 15th cent.).

Walker, Clement, author of "Hist. of Independency," Tincleton (died 1651).

Watson, William, divine, lawyer, and physician, West Stone, 1665.

Willis, John, writing-master, Child Ockford, 1698.

Miscellaneous Remarks.

Corfe Castle for a short time, in 1327, was the prison of Edward II. —The first chemical experiments of Boyle were made at Stalbridge in 1647.—Sixty-seven persons were executed in different parts of this county, by order of Judge Jeffreys, for rebellion in 1685.—At Wimborne St. Giles is one of the finest grottoes in England; it cost £10,000.—From Weymouth packets sail for Jersey and Guernsey. In 1789 their Majesties first visited that place.—In St. Mary's, Wareham, is the monument of Hutchins, historian of the county.—In Sherborne Church is a tablet to the memory of a son and daughter of William, Lord Digby, with an Epitaph by Pope.—April 6, 1613, at Dorchester, two churches and 300 houses (loss £200,000), and June 4, 1731, at Blandford Forum, fourteen persons, the church, townhall, almshouse, free school, and all the houses, excepting forty, were destroyed by fire.

Byro.

Ashe in Stour-paine was the property and residence of John Trenchard, author of "Cato's Letters."

At Beminster Forum, April 14, 1644, 144 houses burnt, loss £21,000; June 28, 1684, a second fire, loss £13,684: March 31, 1781, 50 houses burnt. In the chapel are splendid monuments for John Strode, serjeant at law, 1698, and George Strode, Esq., 1753. The Rev. Samuel Hood, father of the naval heroes, Lords Hood and Bridport, was master of the free school.

Bere Regis, great fire in 1634, loss £7,000. June 4, 1788, 42 houses burnt.

At Blandford Forum, died of the gaol fever Sir Thomas Pengelly, Lord Chief Baron, 1730. In the church are monuments of its natives, Robert Pitt, physician (epitaph by his brother the poet), 1730; and Christopher Pitt, translator of Virgil, 1748; with a cenotaph, having the appropriate ornament of a Pultenea, for Dr. Richard Poulteney, physician and botanist, 1801.

In Blandford St. Mary was buried, in 1726, Thomas Pitt, Governor of Fort St. George, proprietor of the Pitt diamond, which weighed 127 carats, and was sold to the King of France for £135,000.

In Bloxworth Church was buried Sir John Trenchard, Secretary of State to William III., 1694.

Near Bridport, in the time of Henry VIII., there was as much hemp grown as furnished cordage for the whole English Navy, which cordage being ordered to be made exclusively within five miles of the town, gave rise to the proverb applied to a man being hanged, "He was stabbed with a Bridport dagger."

Broad Windsor was the vicarage of Dr. Thomas Fuller, the quaint and amusing author of "Church History," "Worthies," etc.

Burton Bradstock was the rectory of Hugh Oldham, afterwards Bishop of Exeter and founder of Manchester School.

In Charlton were buried Edward Wake, founder of the Corporation of Sons of the Clergy, 1680; and Dr. Charles Sloper, benefactor, who built the church here, 1727.

Cheddington was the rectory of Thomas Hare, translator of Horace.

At Chettle died, aged 86, its native Rev. William Chafin, anecdotist of Cranborne Chase, 1818.

At Corfe Castle was buried its rector Nicholas Gibbon, loyal divine, 1697, aged 92.

Corscombe was the residence of Thomas Hollis, literary patron, who died here, January 1, 1774.

Cranborne is the largest parish in this county, its circumference about 40 miles.

In St. Peter's Church were buried John White, puritan divine, "Patriarch of Dorchester," rector of the Holy Trinity, 1648; and Denzil Lord Holles, patriot, one of the five members demanded by Charles I., 1679-80. In Holy Trinity churchyard, Dr. William Cuming, physician and antiquary, friend of Hutchins, 1788. In All Saints churchyard, its puritan rector, William Benn, Nonconformist, 1680. Lord Chief Justice Rolle was Recorder of this town.

Eastbury was the magnificent seat of George Bubb Doddington, Lord Melbourne, celebrated by the poets Thomson and Pitt. It was finished in 1738, cost £140,000. Its front, now pulled down, was 570 feet long.

East Stour was the residence of Henry Fielding, the novelist.

In Ewern Courtney Church is the monument of its founder, Sir Thomas Freke, 1633.

In Ewern Minster churchyard was buried John Willis, writing-master (portrait engraved), 1760.

Fifehide Nevil was the residence of William Salkeld, serjeant at law, author of "Reports."

Frome St. Quintin was the rectory of George Crabbe, living poet, who resigned it in 1789.

Gillingham was the rectory of the friend of Archbishop Usher, Dr. Edward Davenant, scholar (whose daughter Katherine was married

here in 1613, to Thomas Lamplugh, afterward Archbishop of York), buried in the church 1679; John Craig, mathematician; and William Newton, historian of Maidstone. In the free-school was educated Lord Chancellor Clarendon, and the mastership was the first perferment of Dr. Frampton, afterwards Bishop of Gloucester. June 19, 1644, 40 houses burnt loss £3,900.

Great Fontmel was the rectory of Thomas Dibben, D.D., who translated Prior's "Carmen Seculare" into Latin.

In Great Mintern resided, and in the church was buried in 1714, General Charles Churchill (brother of the great Duke of Marlborough), who took the Duke of Berwick prisoner at the battle of Lauden, in 1693.

Gussage All Saints was the vicarage of Toby Matthews, afterwards Archbishop of York.

Gussage St. Michael was the rectory of Dr. Adam Hill, author on Christ's descent into Hell.

At Hanford resided, and in the church was buried, Henry Seymer, botanist and conchologist, 1785.

Hinton Martel was the rectory of George Isaac Huntingford, the present Bishop of Hereford.

At Hinton St. Mary resided and died, in 1744, William Freke, author against the Trinity and on Dreams.

At Holt died, in 1763, "the great Mr. Benjamin Bowen," who weighed 34 stone 4 lb.

In Horton Church was buried, in 1650, aged 99, the Hon. Henry Hastings of the Woodlands (second son of George, fourth Earl of Huntingdon), whose curious character, drawn by the first Earl of Shaftesbury, is well known.

At Kingston Hall died James Butler, the great Duke of Ormond, 1688.

In Langton Church was buried Dr. Richard Pulteney, physician and botanist, 1801.

In Litchet Maltravers Church is the monument of its native, Sir John Maltravers, inhuman keeper and accessory to the murder of Edward II., 1364.

Lullworth Castle is an exact cube of 80 feet, with a round tower at each corner, 30 feet in diameter, founded 1588, finished 1609. It has been visited by James I., Charles II., James II., when Duke of York, George III. and his Queen Charlotte, and his present Majesty George IV., when Prince of Wales. The chapel is particularly beautiful.

In Lyme Regis churchyard was buried William Hewlin, executed for his adherence to the Duke of Monmouth, 1685.

Marnhull was the residence of Giles Hussey, painter.

In Melbury Sampford Church, the burial-place of the Earls of Ilchester, was buried the loyal Colonel Giles Strangeways, 1675.

Melcombe Horsey was the rectory of John Hutchins, historian of this county.

In Melcombe Regis Church, the altar-piece, "The Last Supper," was given by its painter, Sir James Thornhill.

Milton Abbey was built by Joseph, first Earl of Dorchester, in 1771, from a design of Sir William Chambers. In the church was buried Sir John Tregonwell, counsel for Henry VIII. in his divorce of Katharine of Arragon, 1565.

More Crichell was the rectory of George Bingham, who answered Lindsey, the Unitarian.

In Moreton Church is a beautiful monument by Van Gelder, for Mary, wife of James Frampton, Esq., 1762.

Motcombe was the curacy of Mr. Oliver, the first tutor of Henry Fielding, and said to have been the "Parson Trulliher" of his "Joseph Andrews."

Netherbury-cum-Beminster was the vicarage of Dr. William Stevenson, theological writer.

Nether Compton was the rectory of Thomas Naish, author of "Sermons on Music."

In Obourne churchyard is the monument of Robert Goadby, printer, author of "Illustrations of the Holy Scriptures," 1778.

At Osmington died its vicar, Charles Coates, historian of Reading, 1813.

Piddlehinton was the rectory of William Attwater, afterwards Bishop of Lincoln; William Haynes, Provost of Eton; Nathaniel Ingelo, author of "Bentivoglio and Urania"; Augustine Bryan, editor of Plutarch; and William Keate, author of Sermons.

Piddleton was the vicarage of Reginald Pole, afterwards Cardinal Archbishop of Canterbury; Dr. Benjamin Woodrooffe, scholar, Principal of Gloucester Hall, Oxford; and Theophilus Lindsey, Unitarian.

Pimperne was the rectory of Christopher Pitt, translator of Virgil; and George Bingham, who replied to Lindsey's "Apology," and was buried here 1800.

Poole was made a county in itself in 1567. One hundred and eighteen persons died here of the plague in 1665. In the churchyard was interred Sir Peter Thompson, antiquary and collector, 1770. Anthony, third Earl of Shaftesbury, author of "Characteristics," was M.P. for this borough.

At Poorstock is the monument of Thomas Russel, divine and poet, 1788.

On Portland Beach, November 18, 1795, several transports, with troops for the West Indies on board, were stranded, and 234 persons drowned.

Preston was the vicarage of Charles Coates, historian of Reading.

At Purse Candel was buried Nathaniel Highmore, anatomist, 1684-5.

Shaftesbury was represented in Parliament by Sir Stephen Fox, ancestor of the noble families of Ilchester and Holland.

In Sherborne Church were buried Sir Thomas Wyat, poet, friend of the accomplished Earl of Surrey, 1541; William Lyford, its vicar, Calvinist, 1653; John Digby, third and last Earl of Bristol (monument, by Van Nost, cost £1,500; epitaph by Bishop Hough), 1698; Hon. Robert Digby, 1726, and his sister Mary, 1729 (epitaphs by Pope), and their father, William, fifth and "good" Lord Digby, 1752, aged 92. In the old meeting-house was buried its minister, John England, controversialist, 1724. This town was the residence of Robert Goadby, bookseller, author of "Illustrations of the Scriptures," and the birthplace of J. Hewlett, editor of the Bible, and preacher at the Foundling Hospital, London.—Sherborne Lodge was the principal residence of Sir Walter Raleigh, and a grove which he planted bears his name. In the house are many portraits, and the famous Procession of Elizabeth to Lord Hunsdon's, which was engraved by Vertue.

In Silton Church is the monument of Sir Hugh Wyndham, judge, 1684.

Simondsbury was the rectory of Henry Glenham, Bishop of St. Asaph; William Goulston, Bishop of Bristol, buried in this church, 1684; and Gilbert Budgell, author on Prayer, and father of Eustace the essayist.

Stalbridge was the residence of the Hon. Robert Boyle, philosopher.

Steple was for fifty-six years the rectory of Samuel Bolde, defender of Locke.

Stourminster Marshall was the vicarage of Thomas Merks, Bishop of Carlisle, faithful adherent to Richard II., and of Thomas Ashton, author of Sermons, and friend of Horace Walpole.

Sutton Walrond was the rectory of Thomas Bickley, afterwards Bishop of Chichester.

Swanage is the rectory of Dr. Andrew Bell, introducer into this kingdom of the Madras system of education.

Swyre was the rectory of John Hutchins, historian of this county.

Tarent Gunvill was the rectory of George Stubbs, poetical and political writer.

At Thornhill died Sir James Thornhill, painter, 1734.

Tolpiddle was the vicarage of Dr. Bernard Hodgson, Principal of Hertford College, Oxford, translator of Solomon's Song, Ecclesiastes, and Proverbs.

Up-cerne was the rectory of Gilbert Ironside, afterwards Bishop of Bristol.

Upway was the rectory of Joshua Childrey, astrologer and vir-

tuoso; Edmond Scarborough (son of the physician Sir Charles), translator of Euclid; and Edward Fawconer, editor of Aristotle and Pletho "De Virtutibus."

At Wareham, July 25, 1762, two-thirds of the town destroyed by fire. In St. Mary's Church is the monument of John Hutchins, the historian of Dorset, and rector of the Holy Trinity in this town, 1773.

At Warmwell died, in 1674, John Sadler, author of "The Rights of the Kingdom," and "Olbia." He was much esteemed by Cromwell.

Weymouth and Melcombe Regis have been represented in Parliament by Sir Winston Churchill, father of the great Duke of Marlborough; Sir Christopher Wren, architect; Sir James Thornhill, painter; and Richard Glover, poet, author of "Leonidas."

In Whitchurch Canonicorum was buried Admiral Sir George Summers, who took possession of the Bermudas, thence called "Summer Islands." He died 1610.

Wichampton was the rectory of Richard Parry, D.D., theological writer.

In Wimborne St. Giles Church are monuments of Sir Anthony Ashley, Bart., who first brought cabbages into England from Holland, 1628; Anthony Ashley Cooper, first Earl of Shaftesbury, Lord Chancellor, 1683; Anthony Ashley Cooper, third earl, author of "Characteristics," 1712; and Anthony Ashley Cooper, fourth earl (monument by Scheemakers), 1771.

In Wimborne Minster are the monuments of John, Duke of Somerset, Captain-General of France to Henry VI., 1444; Constant Jessop, its Puritan minister, 1658; William Ettericke, Esq. (epitaph by Prior), 1716; Hannah de Foe, 1759, and Henrietta, wife of John Boston, 1760, two daughters of Daniel de Foe, author of "Robinson Crusoe." Among its deans were John Mansel, Chief Justiciary to Henry III.; John de Kirkby, Bishop of Ely; Reginald de Bryan, Bishop of Worcester; Hugh Oldham, Bishop of Exeter; and Reginald Pole, Cardinal Archbishop of Canterbury.

Winfrith Newburgh was the rectory of William Lindwood, afterwards Bishop of St. David's, statesman and canonist, and James Atkins, afterwards Bishop of Galloway.

Winterbourne Abbas, Winterbourne Faringdon, and Winterbourne Stapleton were the rectories of Gilbert Ironside, afterwards Bishop of Bristol.

At Winterbourne Herringstone died, and at Winterbourne Monkton was buried, Sir Edward Wilmot, physician, first baronet of his family, 1786, aged 94.

Winterbourne Strickland was the residence of Thomas Jane, Bishop of Norwich.

Woodlands was the seat of the Hon. Henry Hastings, buried at Hinton, as before mentioned. BYRO.

[1817, *Part I.*, *pp.* 604, 605.]

May I be permitted to suggest that a little more attention to the natural history of each county would add to the value of the plan? For instance, I should have been glad to have seen the fossils of Dorsetshire noticed. The cliffs in the vicinity of Lyme, which are chiefly composed of indurated marl, are peculiarly rich in these curiosities: skeletons and bones of various fish, unknown in their original state on our shores, are frequently found in these cliffs. One of the crocodile genus was discovered about five years ago, and is now deposited in the British Museum.

J. S.

[1822, *Part II.*, *p.* 387.]

The fine Downs, which extend in an east and west direction from the extremity of the Isle of Purbeck to Abbotsbury, are in many parts thickly covered with tumuli, more especially in the space between the villages of Preston and Upway. In the midst of these barrows may be traced the foundations of buildings, particularly on the hill above Pokeswell,* on Charlbury† (an insulated hill), between Bincombe‡ and Preston, on the down of the former parish, and on Blackdown, or Blackdon, in the parish of Long Bredey. This last forms the highest point of land in the chain, and, unlike the rest, is covered with heath, instead of a fine turf. On the summit of this hill, which commands an extensive view of the coast, reaching from the Isle of Wight to Torbay, I discovered the foundation of a building of considerable thickness, composed of flints and a very hard and white cement, but a small part of which was exposed to view when I saw it, the remainder being covered with the heath, which appears to have been for ages encroaching on its surface. At a short distance from this, on the south-east, stands a large opened barrow, in which are many bricks with mortar adhering to them—a circumstance which would lead one to suppose these materials had been used in the superstructure of the building, and, when reduced to a heap of rubbish, had served thus to cover some human remains.

* On Pokeswell, the appearance of a castle or fort is very plain; two circular towers connected by a line of wall, the masonry of which is, in many parts, nearly 2 feet high.

† On Charlbury, the remains of walls are still visible above the surface of the ground: this hill is circular at the top, and encompassed with an entrenchment.

‡ At Bincombe and the hamlet of Sutton, both on the south side of these Downs and facing the sea, vestiges still remain of castrametation. Indeed, from the great attention given to all the above points, it would seem that attacks had been more frequently made, or at least were more to be feared, in the Bay of Weymouth than on any other part of the coast.

Beminster.

[1819, *Part I., p.* 9.]

I send you a view of the handsome tower of Beminster Chapel, Dorsetshire (see the frontispiece to the present volume), drawn by the accurate pencil of Mr. J. Buckler, F.S.A.

The chapel is dedicated to the Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary, and is dependent on the mother-church of Netherbury.

Beminster Chapel is a handsome, though not splendid, building. It consists of a body with north and south aisles, a chancel with an aisle or chapel attached to the north side, a porch on the south side of the body, and a magnificent tower at the west end. This tower is the chief object of admiration. It is near 100 feet high, and extremely well proportioned, consisting of three stories, with double buttresses at the angles, enriched with niches towards the basement, and terminating with small angular shafts, which do not rise above the battlements, but originally supported pinnacles. At the north-west angle is an octagonal staircase turret. The west front of the tower exhibits a design and variety of decoration peculiarly handsome. In the basement story is a plain, heavy-pointed door, and a large window the tracery of which has been altered in the head of the arch. A band or cornice of enriched quatrefoils extends round the fronts and sides of the tower at the springing of the arch of the door, and a similar cornice above the window divides the stories. The second or middle story contains a small square window, having over it a large niche with smaller ones containing figures at the sides; beneath, an elegant niche and detached panels and pinnacles, which form altogether a very handsome design. In each side of the upper story are two lofty windows, above which are the cornice and battlements, the latter containing perforated quatrefoils.

The tower contains eight bells, and a clock and chimes.

It may be remarked that this tower bears a great resemblance to the towers of Somersetshire churches, and, being contiguous to that county, it is very probable that, if it did not owe its extreme beauty to the cause which raised so many noble and magnificent structures in the neighbourhood, it was built at that period.*

The font is very ancient, and resembles a peculiar kind of Saxon capital, the basin part being square, ornamented with four arched panels on each side, and sloping to a circular shaft and base.

For the numerous epitaphs in the chapel I must refer your readers to the new and much-improved edition of Hutchins's "History of Dorsetshire," vol. i., p. 452.

Yours, etc., N. R. S.

* In 1503 a legacy was given towards building the new tower here, which probably marks its age.

Bincombe and Broadway.

[1802, *Part II., p.* 601.]

The enclosed views (Plate I.) were taken on the spot last autumn. The livings of Bincombe and Broadway are in the gift of Gonville and Caius College, Cambridge, to which livings the Rev. Robert Marriot has lately been presented by the Master and Fellows of that society.

A Constant Reader.

Blandford.

[1817, *Part II., p.* 603.]

As you have correspondents in the town of Blandford, in Dorsetshire, and as it may perhaps be agreeable to some of them to be informed of any trifling matters which passed there in ancient days, long before the destructive fire which consumed the greater part of that celebrated town, I submit to you, for insertion in your valuable miscellany, if you think it worthy of a place in it, a transcript of a letter written in the year 1688 by my grandmother to her husband. The orthography must be excused, for it is in no respect comparable to that of the women of these more enlightened days; and it must be recollected that in those days there were no ladies' boarding-schools known, and even writing was in general self-taught. The writer of the letter was a daughter of Colonel John Penruddock, who was beheaded for his loyalty, written to her husband, Thomas Chafin. It is directed to him at Tregonwell, Frampton's House, at Newmarket, in the following words and manner:

"November, second day.

"My dear T^s^,

"I had writ to thee the last post, but that we continue our sheep-jobing trade. I wish you were at home that we may lose that name we have now goten. My unkle Freak and John Baldon and his shepard came a Monday just as I was going to writ, to buy a hundred of our new-purchasd sheep, but Dakens and he could not agree upon the pris, and I believe my unkle went away displeased; I did not meddell nor make in it, but I think Dakens was very fare with him; so this day they are to goe to be sold three hundred at Andover faire. My brother Pile is well again, but the ladys are yet at Standlinch.—My sister Chiffinch is at Ranston. I have a melancoly time of it for want of thy company. I pray God to send us well together again, but my thinks it is an age since, I believe it dos not seme so to you: you have so many good devertiens I fear you forget all us at home. I am suer you are never out of my mind and fear for thee: all the comfort I have is a letter now and than that you are well and have not quit forgoten us. My thinks this bad wether should not admit of any fild recreation, and for others we have enough here, for Saterday was a senate there was lost at Bland-

ford Ornary a thousand pounds, by one Mr. Clark, a parson's son; Sir George Savage woon six score pounds back that he had lost to him the Saterday before, and five hundred pound more on tick, and Sir Simon Leek woon three hundred pound, but afterwards there was a great quarrel which have caused great disturbance. My brother Ryves is wery of going, for now he says it is not an Ornary for bisness but for play; but for all what he says they were all there again a Saterday, and a great deall of money lost; Mr. Ogden have the devill on his side still. The children, I thank God, are prity well; but for myself I will say nothing, for I find I have not your pity, but I hope a great share of your love, or else I am ill requited. We have a miserable time of wet wether. Pray God send thee safe home. I dread what a sad travelling you must have: prithy take care of thyself, I cannot help saying so in every letter, my fears are so great. Let me hear from you as often as you can, for that is a cordial to me in all my afflictions, and believe all that I say is the real truth, and that I am as I ought to be whilst life, thine own dear

"A. C.

"P.S.—I desire, if you make a spoon of those rings I sent up with you, that it mout be very strong and thick; and if you put more to it and have a case to it, with a knife and fork, and sisers and bodken, you ware as good put your buckles to it, and then all the rest as well as the spoon may be gold; let the case be made to ware on ones side from the girdle."

The ladies of the present age carry little baskets in their hands as substitutes for pockets, but in those days they wore what were called gipsires, hanging on their side from a broad girdle round the waist, ornamented either with jewels or curious needlework, which was more attended to than any other part of external dress, and gave the ladies an opportunity to vie with each other in works of fancy. A description of gipsires may be seen in the late Mr. Strutt's very pleasing romance of "Queenhoo Hall." W. C.

Bridport.

[1820, *Part I.*, *p.* 209.]

The fine old church of Bridport, co. Dorset, of which I send you a view drawn by Mr. J. Buckler, F.S.A. (see Plate II.), stands near the lower end of the South Street of that ancient borough, and is dedicated to St. Mary.

The church is large, and is built in the form of a cross. The body and chancel consist each of three aisles, and are divided internally by four pointed arches resting on clustered columns, which support a lofty and handsome tower composed of several stories, having buttresses at the angles, battlements and pinnacles on the parapets, and an octagonal staircase turret at the north-west angle. The western doorway has been walled up, and the tracery of the window over it

destroyed. In the three aisles composing the east end are as many windows, which are of nearly uniform proportions; but the design of the tracery in each is various, and all are elegant. The principal windows in the transepts are spacious and very handsome. The south porch is united to a chapel or aisle, which joins the east side of the transept, and the room over is lighted by a small bow-window, and approached by an octagonal staircase turret crowned with a pinnacle at the north-west angle. The font is of an octagonal form, ornamented with quatrefoils in its body and pedestal.

A board in the north transept bears this inscription:

". . . this isle for the use of the poor was repaired and beautified at the expence of Mr. Jullantigh in the year 1776."

On the north side of the chancel was an altar-tomb of gray marble, and on a fillet of brass this inscription, as given by Leland:

Hic jacet Willi'mus, filius Elizabet' de Juliers, Comitisse Kancie, consanguine' Philippi, quondam regine Angl.*

William, here buried, was son of Sir Eustace Dabridgecourt, knight, and of Elizabeth, daughter of Gerard, Earl of Juliers, widow of John Plantagenet, Earl of Kent, son of Edmund of Woodstock, Earl of Kent, brother to King Edward II. Elizabeth Countess of Kent died 1411.†

In the north part of the transept is an effigy, in reddish stone, of a man cross-legged, in complete armour, with shield and sword, but no arms on the shield.

The modern epitaphs in this church are given in the first volume of the new edition of Hutchins's "Dorset." N. R. S.

Cerne Abbas.

[1820, *Part II., pp.* 401, 402.]

The abbey of Cerne, in the county of Dorset, according to William of Malmesbury, Camden, and others, was founded as early as the time of St. Austin, whose zeal in the conversion of the Saxons to the Christian faith led him into these parts, where, it is said, he performed several miracles. The earliest period, however, at which we have any certain account of a religious society existing here is in the year 870, when Edward, brother of St. Edmund, King of East Anglia, is said to have resided in it. Through veneration for the memory of that monarch, Ailmer, Earl of Cornwall and Devon, rebuilt and endowed the abbey of Cerne for Benedictine monks about 987. Among the distinguished men who have lived in it was Cardinal Morton.

Enclosed you receive a slight sketch of the present state of the elegant gate-house of the abbey (see Plate II.), which, I much regret to add, is rapidly going into decay, as a comparison with the view in

* This monument has been removed from its original situation, and great part of the inscription lost.

† Hutchins's "Dorsetshire," second edition, i., p. 385.

vol. iii. of Hutchins's "History of Dorset" (taken by F. Cary, about twenty years ago) will evidently show. This curious structure was probably erected about the year 1509, under the abbacy of Thomas Salmon. It seems to have been the principal entrance, and consisted of a large square embattled tower, of three stories, faced with Hamdon stone. The following minute description of it (written in 1806) was contributed by the Rev. J. K. Moor to the second edition of Hutchins's History:

"The sides are of brick, intermixed with layers of stone. In the ground-floor, which was the gate or passage, in the spandrils of the inner arch are two escutcheons with arms. The colours, owing to their not having been exposed to the weather, still remain; on the right, sable, a cross between four lilies argent; the arms of the abbey: on the left, argent, a lion gules, in a bordure bezanté sable, supposed for Richard, Earl of Cornwall, in allusion to whom probably the moulding round the arch of entrance probably ends in two large lions. The groins of the lower ceiling were till very lately much enriched with foliage and quatrefoils. Upon a shield in the centre quatrefoil was a text T, inclosing a fish and crosier; upon others were the arms of the abbey, an O surmounted by a bird (as in front under the upper window), a lover's knot, etc. The wet now soaks through the arch, and has destroyed most of the ornaments, and a great part of the rich fanwork tracery with which it was overspread, and in a very short time will throw down all that remains of that once elegant building. To the honour of those to whose care the preservation of this beautiful relic is entrusted, this gate-house has been more injured by the weather, and been more dilapidated, in the last three years than in the three preceding centuries. Within the memory of persons now living, this ruin has been occupied as a dwelling-house; and was for a long time used as a school, to which purpose it was well adapted. The removal of the lead for sale, and the consequent exposure of the interior of the building to the weather, has been the occasion of its present dilapidated state, which is generally lamented by the inhabitants of the town. In the west or principal front are two large bow-windows, reaching from the arch of entrance to the battlements. Under the higher, on eight escutcheons in quatrefoils, are these arms and devices, four in front and two on each side: 1. Four crosslets in cross. 2. Two bars. 3. A rose. 4. A portcullis.* 5. A text T, inclosing a crosier and fish (probably the rebus of the abbot by whom the building was erected). 6. An O surmounted by a bird. 7. A brake, an instrument still in common use in this neighbourhood in making bread. 8. Defaced.

"Under the lower window are eight more escutcheons, four in front, and two on each side. 1. A dolphin embowed; Fitzjames. 2. A

* "This was a badge of the Beaufort family, and also of Henry VIII., and seems to refer to his other titles to the crown being strengthened by his mother's being of that family."

cross patonce. 3. A lion rampant in a bordure bezanté. 4. Modern France and England. 5. Four fusils in fess encircled with the garter. (This shield belongs to Giles Lord Dawbery in the reign of Henry VII.) 6. A cross engrailed between four lilies; Cerne Abbey. 7. Three bendlets over a plain bordure; impaling a chevron between three roses. 8. Three bendlets (as before) with a file of three points, impaling a bordure engrailed."

These arms are all engraved in Hutchins's History, vol. iii., p. 314. They belong to families connected with the neighbourhood, by whose assistance the gate was probably erected.

Some buildings south of the gate appear to have belonged to the abbey, and are more ancient than the former, but have been converted into a farmhouse and other dwellings.

Yours, etc., J. M. C.

[1764, *pp.* 335, 336.]

I have sent you an exact account of the dimensions of the giant, cut out on the side of a very steep hill near Cerne, in Dorsetshire.

This monstrous figure, viewed from the opposite hill, appears almost erect, with a huge crab-tree club in his hand, raised over his head, just going to strike a blow which seems sufficient, as it were, to overturn a mountain. As I send you the dimensions of this figure, which I took myself, I hope some of your ingenious correspondents will favour us with an account of its origin and use; it is supposed to be above a thousand years' standing, as there is a date between his legs, and the figures are not legible. It is plain there were but three figures, so that, supposing the first to be nine, it must have been formed a long while ago. Some think it was cut by the ancient Britons, and that they worshipped it; others believe it to be the work of the Papists, as here was formerly an abbey, etc., but however that be, the dimensions are as follow:

	Feet.		*Feet.*
Length of his foot	18	Diameter of the eye	$2\frac{1}{2}$
Breadth of the same	8	Ditto of his breasts	7
Ditto of the small of the leg	8	Length of his ribs	16
Ditto of the calf	12	Ditto of the fingers	7
Ditto of the thigh	18	Breadth of the hand	12
Length of the leg and thigh	85	Ditto of the wrist	7
From the top of the thigh to the top of the head	95	From the wrist to the elbow	30
Whole length	180	From the elbow to the shoulder	55
Breadth of the face	9	Length of the arm	102
Ditto of the chin	6	Breadth of the shoulder	44
Ditto of the mouth	$3\frac{1}{2}$	Ditto of the elbow	19
Length of the nose	6	Length of the club	120
Breadth of the nose	$2\frac{1}{2}$	Breadth of the knots	24
Length of the face	$23\frac{1}{2}$	Ditto at other places	7

Chettle.

[1814, *Part II., p.* 423.]

The little village of Chettle, co. Dorset, situate in a pleasant champaign country, 22 miles from Dorchester, and 6 east from Blandford, is about 5 miles in circumference. It contains, according to the return to Parliament in 1811, 27 houses and 27 families (of whom 24 were chiefly employed in agriculture and in trade), consisting of 61 males and 69 females; total 130.

In Domesday Book, Aiulfus the chamberlain held Ceotel. It consisted of one carucate worth 20s. Afterwards it came to the abbey of Tewkesbury.

In 6 Elizabeth this manor and advowson were granted to William Tooke and Edward Baesh, who in 17 Elizabeth alienated them to Thomas Chafin, Esq. In this highly respectable family the property is now vested in the person of the present lord, the Rev. William Chafin, Rector of Lidlinch, co. Dorset.

Near the church is the seat of the Chafins, a large and elegant pile of building, erected by George Chafin, Esq., the father of its present possessor, whose great popularity procured him the honour to represent the county of Dorset from 1713 to 1747, which trust he discharged with an integrity superior to all temptation. His father, Thomas Chafin, Esq., commanded a troop of horse at the battle of Sedgemoor against the Duke of Monmouth. Five curious letters written by him to his wife at Chettle are printed in vol. iii. of the new edition of Hutchins's "History of Dorsetshire," to which work your readers are referred for further particulars relative to this parish.

The church (see Plate II.), dedicated to the Virgin Mary, is a small and neat, but very ancient, pile of building, with a tower containing three bells. In it are several epitaphs to the memory of the Chafin family.

The patronage of the rectory belonged to the abbey of Tewkesbury; since the dissolution to the lord of the manor, now the Rev. William Chafin, who in 1810 presented the present rector, the Rev. John Tregonwell Napier. Yours, etc., B. N.

Clifton Maubank.

[1786, *Part I., pp.* 475-477.]

The noble mansion of the Horseys, at Clifton Maubank, in Dorsetshire, being about to be taken down, it may not be inconsistent with your plan to afford a place for some observations concerning it in your valuable magazine, which will be a means of preserving the remembrance of so magnificent an edifice.

The manor of Clifton belonged to the Maubanks, who resided here at a very early period, and continued in their possession till about the reign of Richard II., when the male line ceased, and the Horseys

of Horsey, in Somerset, succeeded to the estate, by marriage with an heiress of the Maubank family. Not long after, the Horseys acquired the manor of Turges Melcombe, or Melcombe Horsey, in Dorset, by means of a marriage with Elizabeth, daughter of Richard Turges, and, on the dissolution of the monasteries, obtained a grant of the manors of Bradford Abbas and Wyke, and the house and site of the dissolved abbey of Sherborne, with various lands belonging to it, and the manor of Creech, in Purbeck, from Henry VIII. It is not in my power to point out the particular manors which the Horseys held in Somerset (except those of Horsey, Charlton Mackrell, and Cary Fitzpaine); but there is every reason to suppose that their property in Somerset was equal to what they held in Dorset, in which last county, besides the possessions already enumerated, they were possessed of the manors of South Perrott, Thornford, and Nether Compton.

Of the ancient residence of the Maubanks no traces remain. The present house is not older than the sixteenth century, in the latter part of which it was probably built by Sir John Horsey, Knight,* whose name and family arms, quartering those of Turges and Maubank, with the date 1586, are to be seen in one of the hall windows. Over the porch or entrance of the house is a magnificent shield, bearing the same arms as the window before-mentioned, viz., 1, 4, Horsey; 2, Turges; 3, Maubank. On the left side of the door are the arms of Horsey singly, and on the right side those of Turges; and in various parts of the house the same arms with those of Maubank are exhibited in the stonework. For the blazoning of these arms I must, for brevity's sake, refer my readers to Hutchins's "History of Dorset," or the more curious "Survey" of Coker. The gateway, which has been ascribed to Inigo Jones, was erected by Sir Ralph Horsey, in the reign of James I., a little before the time that Coker wrote his "Survey," who, speaking of Clifton, says that the Horseys had "successively adorned it with buildings and other ornaments well befitting such a place and such men." The manor of Clifton, and the other valuable possessions of the Horsey family in Dorset, Somerset, and Hertfordshire, were alienated by Sir George Horsey, son of Sir Ralph, who ended his days in prison. Before the breaking out of the civil war, Clifton was possessed by Sir John Hale, whose heiress brought it to — Hungerford, who sold it to the Horseys, by the last of whom it was mortgaged to Peter Walter, of famous memory, and is now the property of the Earl of Uxbridge. A manuscript in my possession, dated 1648, gives the following description of the house and its environs.

"The capital messuage, consists of a faire yellowe freestone buildinge, partly two and partly three stories, a faire hall and parlour, both

* Sir John Horsey also built the mansion house at Melcombe Horsey, which has been lately taken down. See Coker's "Survey," p. 81.

waynscotted, a faire dyninge roome and with-drawinge roome, and many good lodgings, a kitchen adjoining backwarde to one end of the dwellinge house, with a faire passage from it into the hall, parlour, and dyninge roome, and sellars adjoynynge.

"In the front of the house a square green court, and a curious gatehouse with lodgings in it standinge with the front of the house to the South; in a large outer court three stables, a coach-house, a large barne, and a stable for oxen and kine, and all houses necessary.

"Without the gatehouse paled in a large square greene, in which standeth a faire chappell; of the South East side of the greene court, towards the river, a large garden.

"Of the South West side of the greene court is a large bowlinge greene, with fower mounted walks about it, all walled about with a battelled wall, and sett with all sorts of fruit; and out of it into the feildes there are large walkes under many tall elmes orderly planted.

"There are several orchards and gardens about the house, 14 acres well planted.

"In the backside of the house there is a brewhouse, bakehouse, dayry house, and all other necessary howses, and lodgings for servants, and a faire double pigeon house and a corne mill.

"The river runs through all the lands neere three miles, and encircleth the house att a goode distance, savinge at the East itt runnes by the garden next the parlour, in which river there is plenty of pike, carpes, and other river fish.

"Behinde the house, towardes the North West, there is from the house an easy and dry ascent into the hill where the warren is, and under the edge of that hill, and upon a part of that hill, very pleasant and many ashes, and coppice walkes by the river side also.

"And all the countrey North of the houses open champaign sandy feilds belonging to Bradforde, very dry and pleasant for all kindes of recreation, huntinge, and hawkinge, and profitable for tillage.

"To the South and West, in the front of the house, is a rich deepe soil, where lyeth the pasture and meadow, and part of the arable, and the great coppice wood, in which there is a competent number of deere belonging to the demeasnes, into which there is a descent from the house, which standeth upon a very sandy hill ground, and hath a large prospect East, South, and West, over a very large and pleasant vale.

"This house is seated from the good markett townes of Sherborne 3 miles, Yeavell a mile, Ivelchester 5 miles, Cearne 6 miles, Crewkerne 7 miles, Somerton 8 miles, that plentifully yield all manner of provision, and within 12 miles of the South Sea."

The door of the gateway is somewhat similar to those which we see in the colleges of our universities. It contains a small door within a larger one. These doors were anciently very common, and

in the barbarous ages were certainly of very great utility. As the narrowness of the lesser door admitted the entrance of only one person at a time, and as the greater one was almost always kept fast, the porter, in case of an attack, might easily alarm the family before a large body of men could rush in, and, in case the house was not taken by surprise, a few persons were capable of defending it. Erasmus, in his colloquy entitled "Peregrinatio Religionis Ergo," describes a door of this kind which was to be seen in his time at the abbey of Walsingham, in Norfolk. I will give his own words: "Ad latus septentrionale porta quædam est, non templi, ne quid erres, sed septi, quo tota clauditur area templo adjacens. Ea ostiolum habet perpusillum quale videmus in valvis nobilium, ut qui velit ingredi, primum tibiam periculo exponere cogatur, deinde caput etiam submittat. Profecto tutum non erat ad hostem ingredi per tale ostiolum."

The chapel appears to have been built in the year 1600, as that date appears in a large stone fixed in the west wall. There was lately some painted glass, but it is now entirely destroyed, and the whole fabric is very ruinous, and has not been officiated in of late years. From whence should this negligence arise, as the chapel is certainly parochial?

As many old houses are daily falling a sacrifice to the extravagance of the window tax, I hope your correspondents in the various parts of the kingdom will furnish you either with drawings or descriptions of all such as are about to be destroyed, which are in any wise deserving of the attention of posterity.

Yours, N. L.

Dorchester.

[1800, *Part I.*, *p.* 123.]

Some time ago I accidentally met with the enclosed drawing of Colliton House, Dorchester. As I reside at a distance from the place, I know very little of it; and, not having Hutchins's "History of Dorset" by me, I cannot tell whether he says anything about it. Some of your correspondents in that part of the world may be able to give a little information respecting it, perhaps, as it appears a very ancient edifice. In an old map of Dorchester and Maiden Castle which I have, dated 1721, "dedié a Mademoiselle Eliz. Young," there are marks for four gentlemen's houses—viz., Colonel Strangways's, Mr. Pitt's, Mr. Trenchard's, and Major Williams's. Now Colliton, I conjecture, at that time belonged to one of these.*

AMICUS.

* "In Colliton Street stands the seat of the Churchills, who formerly resided at Muston, in the parish of Strode Muston, where is still the place of their sepulture."—Hutchins, vol. i., p. 397.

[1800, *Part I., pp.* 217, 218.]

The drawing of Colliton House which your correspondent "Amicus" presented us with in February (Plate III., fig. 6) is very curious, though it bears very little resemblance to the present building; indeed, the likeness can be no farther traced than as to the ground plot, or plan. Of the embattled part, which seems very different from the rest of the building, there is not the least remains, neither is there any appearance now of the present structure being larger at any former period, as it seems an entire piece of building, carrying no visible alteration. I am well persuaded no one, on seeing the drawing, would ever conceive its being intended for Colliton House. (Q. Might it not be an original design, and the plan afterwards altered agreeable to the taste of the person for whom it was originally built? There being no date to the drawing, it may be fairly conjectured.) "Amicus" conjectures from the old map of Dorchester and Maiden Castle (which he has), dated 1721, that, as there are four marks, denoting as many houses belonging to gentlemen whom he names, it is probable Colliton at that time was the property of one of them; but the marks alluded to mean no other than Stinsford, Kingston, Woolveton, and Herringston, as the seats of Colonel Strangways, Mr. Grey, or Pitt, Mr. Trenchard, and Major Williams, their respective owners. That it belonged to the Trenchard family once is very plain, from the following transcription from Hutchins, i. 397:

"Colliton Row is a tything of St. George, and a small street adjoining to Glidepath Hill on the S.* (19 Ed. IV.). John Mohun at his death held eight messuages and eight gardens in Colles Row, in this parish (meaning St. Trinity, Dorchester), of the Bishop of Sarum. 1 Henry VII. John Trenchard at his death held twelve acres in Dorchester and Colwallys of the said bishop, in right of his church, by service of paying 13s. 4d. per annum for all services. 19 Jac. I. John Churchill held at his death a messuage, nine cottages, and nine acres of pasture, called Colliton Row, and nine acres and a half in Fordington Field, of the manor of Stratton, paying the same rent, value 40s." Again, afterwards, "John Churchill, who died May 13, 19 Jac. I. (A.D. 1621), held (among many other lands) of the burgesses in burgage, by rent of 3d. value £5 nine cottages, and nine acres of land, called Colliton Row, in St. Trinity parish."

It is therefore clear that, at the date of the map, it was a family mansion belonging to the Churchills. It appears likely that they gained it by marriage into the family of the Mohuns, who are the first owners upon record; as Mary, daughter of John, brother to William Churchill, the ancestor, at least so far as we can find of the

* If S. means south, it is a mistake, as Colliton Row lies due west to Glidepath Hill, they being in fact only one street—Colliton Row one side, and Glidepath Hill the other.

family, married Maximillian Mohun. It is not known whether the house is called after the street, or the street after the house.

NOVUS.

[1823, *Part II., p.* 506, 507.]

The sexton of St. Peter's Church regularly rings the seventh bell precisely at eight o'clock for about ten minutes, and afterwards tolls the same bell to as many strokes as correspond with the day of the month. Another custom, I do not know how peculiar it may be to this town, prevails of the sexton of this same parish ringing the first bell regularly at six o'clock in the morning from Lady Day to Michaelmas, and at seven o'clock from the latter to the former period, being the winter six months; and at one o'clock at noon during the whole year, Sundays excepted; thus serving as a summons for the different classes of mechanics and labourers to begin their daily work, commence after their dinner hour, and finally conclude at the warning sound of the curfew. How long this last custom has existed has not been ascertained, but it is presumed from a very distant period. The advantages of such a regular summons to and discharge from occupation are daily experienced. It would be interesting to know in how many places the ringing of the curfew is still kept up; and communications on the subject might be easily made, with observations and illustrations of local customs connected with it, through the medium (with your permission) of your widely-extended miscellany, always open to assist the curious and learned inquirer.

While on the subject of bells, it may not be altogether irrelevant to speak of another custom to which bells are applied, as a memento of frail mortality, announcing the death of individuals; this, I apprehend, is more general than the curfew, but whether with any difference as to the mode this allusion may perhaps produce some satisfactory information. It is necessary to premise that there are three distinct parishes in the town of Dorchester and as many churches; the observations now made refer to the practice adopted in the largest church, St. Peter's, not because there is any variation from the others, but merely that being the principal church, and the tower contains a larger peal of bells than the others. On the death of any respectable individual the largest bell is rung by the sexton during a period from ten to fifteen minutes, and then tolled as follows: If for a man deceased, it is signified by tolling three strokes, thrice; if for a woman, two strokes, thrice; if for a boy, three strokes, twice; if for a girl, two strokes, twice; for a poor person the seventh bell is rung and tolled in like manner. At the funeral the bell is tolled for half an hour previous to the arrival of the corpse at the church and the commencement of the service, but never afterwards, excepting at the funeral of a ringer, when all the bells are muffled and chimed backwards half an hour before the service, and after the interment of

the corpse a peal is rung, the bells being still muffled, and the ceremony of ringing backward for half an hour invariably observed. At the death of an alderman, or person of distinction, the large bell of St. Peter's is always rung, although the deceased person may happen to have resided in either of the other parishes. . . .

VIATOR.

[1833, *Part I., p.* 423.]

I have sent you an engraving of the almshouse called "Napper's Mite," in the South Street, Dorchester.

"Napper's Mite" was founded for ten poor men by Sir Robert Napper, or Napier, of Middlemarsh, Dorset, in 1615, and endowed with a quarter of the manor of Little Piddle (in the same county), which he had bought for that object.

In 1636 Gerard Napier, Esq., allowed the inmates £50, or £5 each yearly, and directed that the remainder of the rent should be paid for their religious instruction; and in 1670 £5 a year more was allowed for a chaplain to perform divine service in the chapel.

The almshouse consists of ten dwellings and a chapel, forming the sides of a quadrangle, with a steined yard in the middle. The building shown in the woodcut is the front, or one side of the square, the door of which opens into a little cloister about six feet wide, and originally aired and lighted by eight arches, one of which is now bricked up.

As divine service is not now performed in the chapel, it is used as a lumber-room and washhouse. In the wall at the upper end of it is a large stone, bearing the arms of Napier, and the inscription—

"La mite Nappier, built to the honour of God, bie Sir Robert Napper, Knight, Ann. XENODOCHIVM."

Each of the ten dwellings has a piece of garden ground belonging to it; and the yearly pension of £5 to each inmate has been increased by H. C. Sturt, Esq., the present representative of the Napier family, to about £13.

W. BARNES.

P.S.—As I may not always be able to get the history of the subjects which I may take for my graver as fully as I may wish, I invite gentlemen who have more or better sources of information than myself to supply any defect which they may see in my topographical papers.

[1840, *Part II., p.* 482.]

Allow me to deposit in your Magazine a view which I engraved for the future generations of this town some time since, of an old house called the Judges' House, now pulled down.

This house, which stood on the Cornhill, and of which I have obtained a few particulars through the kindness of some antiquarian friends, was built by John, father of James Gould, Esq., a gentleman of considerable property, a brother of whom, John Gould, had

settled at Upway, between this town and Weymouth. His daughter Mary married, in 1702, General Charles Churchill, the fourth son of Sir Winston Churchill, and younger brother of John the great Duke of Marlborough. He died without issue December 29, 1714, and his widow afterwards (on February 13, 1716) married Montagu Earl of Abingdon, by whom she had a son, James Lord Norreys, who died of the small-pox February 25, 1717. The Earl died in 1743, and soon afterwards the Countess-Dowager seems to have sought her paternal roof in the house of which I am writing, with whom Mr. Gould inhabited it till his death, and then left her in possession of it. She survived her second husband and father till January 7, 1757, when she was accidentally burnt to death, and was buried at the entrance of the chancel of St. Peter's Church at Dorchester, near which spot is her escutcheon.

After the death of the Countess of Abingdon, it was occupied for some years by a Mrs. Mason, in whose time—which reached till about twenty-five years since—it was used by the judges as their lodgings at the assizes; a circumstance from which it was afterwards called the Old Judges' House. It was subsequently bought by Mr. Fisher of Dorchester, and about three years ago it was pulled down, and a spacious modern house was erected on its site.

John Gould, Sen., by deed enrolled, dated ——, gave an annuity, or yearly rent-charge of £8 payable for ever, out of this house or the land of it, towards the support of the poor of the three parishes of the town (see Boswell's "Civil Division of the County of Dorset").

Yours, etc., W. BARNES.

Great Fontmel.

[1814, *Part I., p.* 536.]

Great Fontmel is a large parish in the hundred of Sexpenny-Handley, and county of Dorset.

In the Domesday Survey the Church of St. Mary at Sceptesberie (Shaftesbury Abbey) held Fontmale, consisting of 16 carucates, once worth £10 but then £15. In the rental in Shaftesbury Register here were 15 hides, except the demesnes, and 86 tenants.

At the dissolution of religious houses, temp. Henry VIII., this manor was granted to the Arundels, afterwards Barons of Wardour.

In 1809 the manors and tithings of East and West Fontmel, and Hertgrove cum Bedchester, were sold by the late Lord Arundel and his trustees to Sir Richard Carr Glyn, Bart., second surviving son of the late Sir Richard Glyn, Bart., Lord Mayor of London in 1759, and eldest son by the second wife Elizabeth, co-heiress of Robert Carr, Esq. This gentleman was elected Alderman of London, for the ward of Bishopsgate, in 1790; filled the civic chair in 1798; and in 1800 was created a baronet. His country seat is at Gaunt's House, co. Dorset.

I send you a neat view of the church, showing its very curious porch (see Plate I.), which I beg you to insert, with the following account of it, extracted from the new edition of Hutchins's "History of Dorset":

"The Church of Great Fontmel is dedicated to St. Andrew. The nave is of one pace with the chancel, a pointed arch between and two pointed arches with clustered columns, the capitals composed of four angels surrounded with scrolls. On a screen in the south aisle are three wooden heads, in rounds beautifully cut, and a scroll round the ledge inscribed 'WA'TER KING AND ESBELL HIS WIF.' The letters are of the fantastic form which prevailed about the beginning of the sixteenth century. Esbell is probably Isabel. The K is sufficiently like one in the Urswick Chapel at Windsor. Against the north wall, three perks. The font is a basin on a round shaft. Over the east door of the chancel, a figure of a monk's head under a round arch, brought by Mr. Dibben, the late rector, from an old house his property in the parish, and fixed up on rebuilding the chancel, which, with the nave, being all new paved, the only slab remaining, a blue one, with a brassless label in the middle, is within the rails. The pulpit is carved in panels, with the lily pot; the desk a long seat, as at Sutton-Walrond, but made a box for the surplice. But the greatest, and till now unnoticed, curiosity about this church is its south porch, under the battlements of which are a variety of bas-reliefs and ornaments; among them are the figure of an ecclesiastic, with the letters 'R. P.'; two stags under a tree; armed figures, etc., executed with great spirit and freedom; and at the end:

O man
kyn hare
tho' y' min;

and under the battlements the following inscription, bearing date 1530:

Yer of our lord god MVCXXX
Mr lord to the E call for my* thy pun all
my smti yw ch'a me fen to the
for k'y loo bet yei† me
ihi ihc

Commemorating some unknown erector of this porch. Among other arms are those of Milton Abbey; and the Stourtons, a bend between six wells; and a fret single, quartering in a border a bird; a sledge; two bundles or gerbes crossed; a portcullis; a sickle and other instruments of husbandry; a W united to another initial; the Bourchier knot; ihs; etc.

"The Rectory was anciently a prebend in the Abbey of Shaftesbury, and appropriated to the maintenance of one of the Abbess's

* A kind of impalement. † They.

chaplains or confessors. The ancient patron was the Abbess of Shaftesbury; but since the Reformation, the Arundels of Wardour. The advowson was purchased not long since by William Salkeld, Esq."

Yours, etc., B. N.

Gillingham.

[1814, *Part I., pp.* 113, 114.]

The parish of Gillingham is one of the largest in the county of Dorset; as by survey it has been found to be 41 miles in circumference, and, by geometrical computation, to contain 64,000 acres. It is situated in the most Northern extremity of the county, near the borders of Wilts and Somerset, four miles north-west of Shaftesbury; and, being a deep enclosed country, consists chiefly of pasture for grazing, and the dairies. Weaving of linen is the only manufacture carried on here.

In 1016 an important battle was fought, between Edmund Ironside and Canute, at Penn, co. Somerset, so near to this place, that some historians style it the Battle of Gillingham; in which the Danes were entirely defeated.

The Forest of Gillingham was heretofore part of Selwood Forest, co. Somerset. Leland says, it was, in his time, four miles in length, and a mile in breadth. It was disafforested in the beginning of King Charles I.'s reign.

The Church of Gillingham (of which by the kindness of Mr. Buckler, I am enabled to send you a view; see Plate I.) is a royal peculiar in Shaftesbury Deanery, dedicated to the blessed Virgin Mary; and is a large ancient fabric, consisting of a body and two aisles of equal height, a chancel, a chapel adjoining to it, and a high tower, in which are six musical bells, a clock and chimes. The nave is 54 feet long and 22 wide, and the roof supported by four pillars, and three round arches. Some old wooden seats are remaining, carved with the device of the Stourton family. The chancel is 48 feet long, 21 broad, and 20 high to the eaves. The north aisle is 53 feet long and 15 broad. The south aisle is 54 feet long and 18 broad. The tower is 63 feet high, and about 15 by 14 in the inside.

In the church is a monument for Thomas Jesope, M.D., fellow of Merton College, who died 1615; and his brother Rev. John Jesope, vicar of this parish, who built great part of the vicarage-house, and died 1625. Another for Dr. Edward Davenant, also vicar here, who died 1679, æt. 84. Also other monuments to the memories of Henry Dirdoe, Esq., who died 1724, aged 77; Mrs. Frances Dirdoe, who died 1733, aged 34; Francis Devenish, gent., who died 1689, aged 77; John Tinney, who died 1728, aged 74; Rev. John Pern, M.A., twenty-seven years vicar here, who died 1770; and his son,

Rev. Andrew Pern, who died 1771, aged 27; William Read, Esq., who died 1798, aged 44, a considerable benefactor to this parish, etc.*

Edward Young, LL.B., Dean of Salisbury, and father of the celebrated poet, was prebendary of Gillingham Minor, in the Cathedral of Salisbury.

Rev. Edward Davenant, D.D., was born in London, and educated at Queen's College, Cambridge. He was nephew to Dr. Davenant, Bishop of Salisbury, and was collated to this vicarage in 1625. During the Civil Wars his house was plundered, and his library, worth £1,000, seized by Waller's soldiers. At the Restoration he was restored to this preferment. He was a very learned man; and assisted Archbishop Usher in his chronology, by calculating the eclipses since the Creation. Dr. Wallis makes honourable mention of him in his "History of Algebra." His charity and hospitality still survive, by tradition, in this parish.

The Rev. John Craig, prebendary of Gillingham, was an inoffensive, virtuous man, master of a good Latin style, an excellent mathematician, and esteemed by Sir Isaac Newton. He died 1731.

The Rev. William Newton, vicar here, was born at Maidstone in Kent, and had preferments in that county. He repaired the vicarage-house, and published, "A Companion for the Lord's Day, 1716"; several defences of the Bishop of Bangor's "Sermon"; "The Life of Bishop Kennet"; "The History of Maidstone, 1741"; and several sermons, and other religious tracts. He assisted Mr. Hutchins in his history of this place, and died in London 1744.

The Rev. Edward Emily, Dean of Derry, which he exchanged for the mastership of the hospital at East Harnham Bridge, Salisbury, was vicar here from 1783 to 1792, in which year he died, and bequeathed his fortune to the present Bishop of Durham, who settled £6,000 3 per cents. on the poor of that hospital.

The Rev. Dr. Purdy, of whom some memoirs are given in vol. lxxxii., Part ii., p. 587, was curate of Gillingham.

The present vicar is the Rev. William Douglas, D.D., prebendary of Westminster, son of the late Bishop of Salisbury.

Yours, etc., B. N.

Litchet Maltravers.

[1817, *Part I., p.* 209.]

Fig. 3 is an ancient octagonal font in the church of Litchet Maltravers, co. Dorset, on which is, 1. a rose; 2. a fret (the arms of the family of Maltravers); 3. a rudder; 4. a cinquefoil; 5. a fret; 6. a

* All these epitaphs may be seen at length in the third volume of the new edition of Hutchins's "History of Dorsetshire"; where is given a very full and satisfactory history of this large parish; and from whence the above particulars are extracted.

rudder; 7. a rose; 8. a cinquefoil. The font has a large octangular wooden cover terminating in a point at top.

Yours, etc., N. R. S.

Loders.

[1815, *Part II., p.* 497.]

The parish of Loders, near Bridport, co. Dorset, is very large, being about 6 miles in length, and is situated for the most part in a vale, encompassed by hills that rise gently above it. Much hemp and flax grow here.

Loders is mentioned in Domesday Book, being surveyed in four parcels or manors.

There was formerly a priory or cell here, subordinate to the Abbey of Montburgh in Normandy. This priory was frequently seized into the king's hands during the wars with France; and on the suppression of alien priories, 2 Henry V., it was given to the nunnery of Syon, in Middlesex. Not far from the church are the remains of an ancient stone building, supposed to have been part of the priory house.

I request you to insert a view of the church. (See Plate II.) It is a large ancient structure, and is dedicated to St. Mary Magdalen, after whose festival the wake is kept.

The ancient patron of this vicarage was the abbot of Montburgh; and afterwards the abbess of Syon. 28 Eliz. the advowson was granted to Sir Christopher Hatton. It subsequently came to the family of Ashley, Earls of Shaftesbury; and was by them exchanged, 5 George II., for the rectory of Wimborne St. Giles; since which the patronage has been in the crown. It is a discharged living, in Bridport Deanery.

For fuller particulars of this parish, and particularly of the descent of the manorial property in it, see the new edition of Hutchins's "Dorsetshire," vol. i., pp. 590-595.

Yours, etc., B. N.

[1840, *Part II., p.* 297.]

A great number of old English silver coins were discovered, in June, at Loders, near Bridport. It being desirable to lower the floor of a barton, a boy engaged in pecking up the hard grouting of which it was composed, struck upon an earthenware vessel, containing from 400 to 500 silver coins, chiefly groats and demi-groats of Henry VIII., with some of Edward IV. They are generally in good preservation. A traveller hearing of the occurrence, shortly afterwards purchased the greater number of the coins, and sent them to London.

Lulworth.

[1830, *Part II., pp.* 201-203.]

As Lulworth Castle in Dorsetshire forms the present retreat of fallen royalty, the annexed view (see Plate I.) may be acceptable to our readers.

The most ancient possessors of the manor are said to have been the De Lolleworths; but the powerful family of the Newburghs possessed it as early as the reign of John. Christian, the sole heiress of Sir Robert Newburgh, carried the estate to her husband, Sir John Marney, in 1514; and their second daughter, Elizabeth, brought it into the Howard family, by marriage with Thomas Lord Howard of Bindon; the other coheiress, Catherine, who married Lord Poynings, having died without issue. From the Howard family the estate was purchased in 1641, by Humphrey Weld, Esq., of Holdwell, in Halfield; and is now possessed by Cardinal Weld, his lineal descendant.

That here was a castle in former ages appears from Tyrrel's "History of England"; where we read, that Robert Earl of Gloucester, 1142, took the Castle of Lullwarde for the Empress Maud. Whether the present structure had its name from succeeding to its site, or only from being built in that form, is uncertain; though it never was a place of strength, or designed to be such. It is a noble pile, and stands at the higher end of the parish, a little north of the church, and on the edge of the park, on a rising ground; commanding a fine prospect of the sea, from an opening between the hills; and from the top of the house is an extensive view over the country, especially on the north and east. It was chiefly built out of the materials of Mount Poynings and of Bindon Abbey, by Thomas Viscount Bindon, as Mr. Coker says (p. 44) about 1600. Some have made Inigo Jones the architect. The foundations were laid 1588, and the building was finished 1609. But, though Theophilus Earl of Suffolk resided here 1635, little of the inside work was finished when Mr. Weld came to it. It is an exact cube of 80 feet, with a round tower at each corner, 30 feet in diameter, rising 16 feet above the walls, which, as well as the towers, are embattled. The walls are 6 feet thick, the offices are, under ground, arched with stone. The house has three stories, but the towers four; in each front are three rows of four windows; in the towers are four rows of three each, exclusive of the offices. The hall and dining-room are large, and the rooms are in general 18 feet high. In some of the apartments are some family pictures, done by the celebrated hand of Sir Peter Lely. The principal front is on the east, and faced with Chilmark stone. Before it was a large court, now laid into the lawn leading to the landing-place, which is guarded by a balustrade of stone (which, in the late Edward Weld's time, only extended along

the east front), and called the cloisters, because paved with the stones taken from the cloisters of Bindon Abbey. This was continued by the late possessor along the north and south sides, at the extremity of which it joins a terrace to the west, of the same height with themselves. Over the doors are the statues of two ancient Romans in their gowns. On each side of the door, which is supported by four pillars of the Ionic order, is a large niche, and over them two shields, on which are the arms of Weld, properly blazoned. In the niches are statues of Music and Painting.

This mansion has had the honour to entertain King James I. when he came in his western progress to hunt in the Park and the Isle of Purbeck, 1615;* as also, in 1665, King Charles II. and the Dukes of York and Monmouth, whose names the apartments they lay in still bear. It is reckoned one of the finest seats in the county for its uniformity, and was justly admired by King Charles II. The large gardens adjoining, and the groves of trees that almost surround it, add greatly to the beauty and grandeur of the place. The only thing it wants is water.

It was sometimes garrisoned by the King; but in 1643 and 1644 by the Parliament, probably to be some check upon Corfe Castle. Captain Thomas Hughes was governor here during that time; whose receipts, without date, out of the hundred of Winfrith and liberties of Bindon and Owre-Moygne, being the profits of sequestered lands, amounted to £3,854 4s. o¼d. and his disbursements to £2,518 13s. o¼d. The iron bars of the windows, the leaden water-pipes, and great part of the wainscot, were sold, or carried away by the Parliamentarians, when they broke up their garrison. By the governor's accounts, three tons of lead were sold hence, and two more delivered for the use of the garrisons of Weymouth, Poole, and the siege of Corfe Castle, besides what was spent here; and the owner was very fortunate that a set of men who delighted so much in mischief had not burnt or demolished this beautiful pile of building.

In 1789, George III. together with his Queen and the three elder princesses, paid a visit to Lulworth Castle by sea from Weymouth, where they then resided for a few weeks. In 1791, the same royal company repeated their visit by land, and, on each occasion, spent many hours in examining the castle, the new chapel, and the grounds. In 1792, their Majesties, with the Prince of Wales and five of the princesses, sailed from Weymouth in the *Juno* frigate, which was accompanied by several other vessels, in order to visit the Castle, whilst the Duchess of York and several ladies of the court went thither by land; however, the sea running high, none of the nautical party attempted to land, except the Prince of Wales, which he effected, at the expense of a severe drenching. He surveyed the

* See Nichols's "Progresses of King James," vol. iii., p. 97.

castle, and returned to Weymouth by land. A few days afterwards, the King and Queen, with the princesses, to prevent a second disappointment, came to Lulworth in their carriages. . . .

In the year 1786 the first stone of the present chapel, which stands at a small distance to the south-west of the castle, was laid by the late possessor, under which were placed coins of the reign of George III. and a plate of brass, with the following inscription : [omitted].

The chapel is of a circular form, increased by four sections of a circle so as to form a cross, and covered with a dome and lantern. It contains a well-toned organ, a copy of Raphael's transfiguration, and two other scriptural pieces brought from Italy.

Joseph Weld, Esq., brother of Cardinal Weld, the owner of Lulworth Castle, having tendered the use of this noble mansion to the ex-King of France, in case the British Government would permit him to land, the fallen monarch gladly accepted the offer, and on the answer of our Government being received, allowing him to reside in England as a private individual, preparations were made for the departure from Cowes. On Monday, August 23, 1830, the royal family debarked at Poole, and proceeded to Lulworth Castle by land. Shortly after three o'clock two carriages arrived, with luggage and a few attendants, and about five o'clock two other carriages drove up the park, containing the deposed monarch, the Duke of Angouleme, the Duke of Bordeaux, the Duke of Luxembourg, and General Baron de Damas. The ex-king was received at the entrance of the castle by Joseph Weld, Esq., with whom he cordially shook hands.

Charles (who, we believe, now bears the title of Duke of Milan, being prohibited from residing in England otherwise than as a private individual) is of rather tall stature, but he does not display his figure to any advantage, owing to a rather ungraceful stoop. He bears evident marks of age, and appears somewhat weakened, but not so much as might have been expected in a man nearly seventy-three years of age, after the great anxieties and fatigues he has so recently undergone. There is a character of mild gracefulness about his countenance, tinged with a cast of melancholy. The Duke of Angouleme, his eldest son, who is fifty-five years of age, is much shorter than his father, and displays in his appearance little firmness or manliness. He looks nearly as old as his father. The Duke of Bordeaux, who was ten years old on September 23, is a very fine and interesting child; he is tall for his age, and possesses an intelligent countenance.

The princesses and the retinue slept at the London Inn at Poole on Monday night, August 23, and the following day proceeded to Lulworth.

The following is a list of the persons who accompanied the royal suite, with the stations they respectively occupy :

The ex-king—the Duke of Luxembourg, Captain of the Life

Guards; Count O'Hegerty, Master of the Horse; the Baron Kingtzenger, secretary; Dr. Bongou, physician.

The Duchess of Angouleme—the Countess of Murnar; Countess of St. Maurs, accompanying lady; Madame de St. Preuve, waiting lady; Chevalier O'Hegerty, Master of the Horse.

The Duchess of Berri—Count de Misnard, Master of the Horse; Count de Brissac, Major Domo; Count and Countess de Charette, friends; Countess de Bouillie, accompanying lady.

The Duke of Bordeaux—General Baron de Damas, governor; M. de Barbaneois, under-governor; Count de Martras, under-governor; Alfred de Damas, aide-de-camp; M. de Burante, professor; Chevalier de Villale, aide-de-camp.

The Princess Marie Theresa Louisa—Duchess de Goutaud, governess; M. Vachen, teacher.

Besides many inferior attendants and servants.

The period for which the ex-royal family will remain at Lulworth Castle, or even in England, is quite uncertain. Charles keeps himself much secluded, and seldom ventures beyond the precincts of the park. The preserves are in good order, and afford the party much sport. He and the Duke of Angouleme frequently amuse themselves with shooting excursions, having taken out the proper certificates. . . .

[1792, *Part I., p.* 105.]

Being naturally fond of the vast and singular works of nature, I was lately much struck with the sight of a curious arched rock on the coast of Dorsetshire, distant about two miles from West Lulworth, of which the enclosed sketch (fig. 3) is an accurate representation. This rock projects considerably into the sea, one part being joined to the land, the other rising from the water, as expressed in the drawing. Though I do not suppose that the curve of the arch is above 16 or 20 feet in height (I am sorry that I had no means of ascertaining the dimensions), yet the whole forms a noble exhibition. If you should think this short description and representation of so curious an object worthy insertion, I flatter myself that it may contribute to the entertainment of some of your readers.

MONTIVAGUS.

Milton Abbas.

[1786, *Part I., pp.* 121, 122.]

In the biographical anecdotes of the Rev. Mr. Hutchins, author of the "History of Dorset" in Bibl. Topog. Britann. (No. xxxiv.), a short account is given of the foundation of Milton Abbas school in that county. The author of the anecdotes has very properly observed that the account inserted in Mr. Hutchins's history is so very inaccurate that one can hardly suppose it to have been the work of Mr. Hutchins. A hint is given that the manuscript was interpolated

after it went out of Mr. Hutchins's hands. Whether that was, or was not the case, let those who are acquainted with the business speak out. It is not my present intention to examine the errors of Mr. Hutchins, or his transcribers, but to present the public, by means of your magazine, a fuller relation of the foundation and endowment of the school than has hitherto appeared.

The school of Milton Abbas was founded by William Middleton, abbot of Milton, in the twelfth year of Henry VIII. About the same time he purchased of Thomas Kirton the manor, farm, and free chapel of Little Mayne in the county of Dorset, with which he endowed the school. The founder of the school was also a great benefactor to his convent, and his rebus may be seen in the south aisle of Milton Church, in which parish he was probably born. By a deed dated February 10, 12 Henry VIII., under the common seal of the abbey of Milton, the said abbot, with the consent of his convent, granted the said manor of Little Mayne to Kirton, which he had before purchased of him, upon trust that Kirton should convey the same unto Giles Strangeways, knight, Thomas Arundell, knight, Matthew Arundell, his son and heir apparent, Thomas Trenchard, knight, John Horsey, knight, George De La Lynde, Esq., John Rogers, Esq., Thomas Hussey, Robert Martin, Thomas Moreton, Robert Coker, Robert Strode, Henry Ashley, John Frampton, Thomas Trenchard, John Williams, and Walter Grey, Esqrs., and others, to the intent to maintain a free grammar school in the town of Milton, and to employ the profits of the said manor to the maintenance of the said school, and of a schoolmaster, for the term of ninety-seven years; but if within that time licence might be obtained to alien the said manor in mortmain, that then the abovementioned feoffees should grant the same manor to the use of the said school; but, if such licence could not be obtained, that then the feoffees, after the expiration of the said term, should sell the said manor and employ the money arising therefrom in the maintenance of the school as long as might be. In pursuance of which Kirton conveyed the same manor, farm, and free chapel, to the beforementioned feoffees, for the purposes abovementioned.

The chief design of the foundation was, without doubt, for the education of the novices of the abbey. The purchase-money for the farm, with which the school was endowed, was paid out of the abbey stock, and, as far as we can learn, the monks were interested in it as much as the abbot. It is well known that the sons of gentlemen were often instructed in the monasteries; and perhaps, before the foundation of this school, there was no one belonging to, or near the monastery of Milton, to which the neighbouring gentlemen might send their children. On which account this school might be considered as not only beneficial to the abbey, but also to the whole adjoining country.

In a late suit between the lord of the manor of Milton and the feoffees of the school, it was insisted on by the plaintiff, that the school was not intended for grammar learning, but for teaching reading, writing and arithmetic, to the poor inhabitants of Milton. It will require no great strength of reasoning to refute so idle an hypothesis. The probable intention of the foundation I have mentioned above; and shall only observe that the service of the church, the registers of abbeys, and most acts of law, were at that time written in Latin. Even in common letters the Latin language was generally used. Would an abbot, then, found a school for teaching English only? Of what service could that be either to the abbey or the State? Besides, it was not for the interest of the religious to diffuse learning amongst the laity: they knew too well that the pillars of superstition must be shaken when the people were as intelligent as themselves. Add to this, that the servile tenants in most of the manors belonging to the monasteries were not permitted to put their children to school without consent of their lords; the reason of which prohibition was lest the son being bred to letters might enter into holy orders, and so stop or divert the services which he would otherwise be obliged to do, as heir and successor to his father. That this custom existed in the manors belonging to the abbey of Milton, may be learned from the customary of that abbey, from which some extracts are given in the first volume of the "History of Dorset," p. 117. Can we imagine, then, that the school at Milton was originally intended for the abbot's servile tenants, or that he was willing to lose his vassals? It is impossible that this could have been the case; and one may therefore safely conclude that the school was purposely designed for the use of the monastery, that the Latin language was taught there (I cannot say the Greek, for it was then but little known), and that it was not intended to be of any advantage to the poor inhabitants of Milton.

The first master was, perhaps, appointed by the abbot and convent; but at the dissolution of the monasteries the lands belonging to the school were not considered as part of the possessions of the abbey, they being vested in the hands of trustees. And it is well known that Archbishop Cranmer, and others of the Reformers, were so far from destroying schools, that they caused divers to be endowed, and even wished that a greater part of the abbey lands had been employed for that useful purpose. After the dissolution of the abbey the masters were always appointed by the feoffees, as the design of the school was now altered, and was become of general utility to the whole adjoining country. The lord of the manor of Milton can no more be considered to be the abbot's vicegerent than the Pope to be St. Peter's.

The school seems to have been kept originally in the abbey, and afterwards in the belfry of the church. The custom of keeping

schools in the belfries and porches of churches is of high antiquity. It originated from such schools being kept by the parish clerks, who were formerly required to be men of letters. These clerks were generally maintained by the parish. I mention this that no one might imagine that the school of Milton was always kept in the belfry of the church, for this school was endowed, and the master was not chosen by the parishioners. Indeed, the church of Milton was appropriated to the convent, and there was another belonging to the parish, which was destroyed about the time of the Reformation.

In 1634 the ground whereon the late school-house stood was granted by John Tregonwell, of Anderston, esquire, and John Tregonwell and Thomas Tregonwell, his sons, to Thomas Lord Arundell and Richard Swayne, of Tarrent Gunvill, esquire, then surviving feoffees.

The deed of foundation has been lost many years. Several stories have been told concerning it, none of which I can believe. It must have been produced to the commissioners* who took an inquisition at Blandford concerning lands given to charitable uses on September 6, 42 Elizabeth. It is from this inquisition (in which the deed is recited) that we learn the particulars of the foundation. A decree in chancery was made in consequence of this inquisition, and it is probable the original deed was never returned by the commissioners, though the interpolator of the "History of Dorset" tells us that whilst Mr. Hutchins lived at Milton it was in the possession of Mr. Bancks.

The school, being situate in the middle of the county, has always been very flourishing. The trustees, and particularly the present ones, have paid great attention to it, and the masters have generally been remarkable for their learning and industry. I cannot pass over in silence the diligence and attention of the late master, Mr. Wood, by whose care and assiduity the number of pupils was considerably increased, and the fame of the school diffused much wider. To him the rising generation is much indebted; and it is with the most sincere gratitude that one of his late pupils acknowledges his obligations to him in so extensive a publication as the *Gentleman's Magazine.*

"Quando illi invenies parem?"

By an Act of Parliament passed last sessions the school of Milton was removed to Blandford. Yours, etc., N. L.

Netherbury.

[1819, *Part I., p.* 505.]

In your magazine for January last (p. 9) is a view of Beminster Chapel, co. Dorset. As a companion to it I now solicit your inser-

* The commissioners were Sir Richard Rogers, knt., John Strode, Esq., John Ryves, Esq., Thomas Jessop, doctor of physic, John Ryves, jun., Robert Coker, and John Budden, gent.

tion of the Church of Netherbury (see Plate I.), with which Beminster is connected as to ecclesiastical matters, though in all other respects a distinct parish.

Netherbury is one of the largest parishes in Dorsetshire, being six miles and a half long from north to south.

There are three manors belonging to three prebends in the Church of Salisbury—Netherbury in Ecclesia, Netherbury in Terra or Yondover, and Slape—the prebendaries being lords of the manor.

Netherbury is divided in four tithings—Ashe, Bowood, Melplash, and Netherbury—containing within them no less than thirty-three farms or hamlets.

There is a free school in this parish, the founder of which is not known; but the funds are employed pursuant to an award made January 3, 7 Elizabeth. In 1796 the master received £42 per annum. This foundation is not noticed by Mr. Carlisle in his "Endowed Grammar Schools."

The Church of Netherbury is a large and handsome fabric, situated on an eminence at the extreme part of the parish, bordering on Beminster. It is supposed to be dedicated to the Virgin Mary, on whose nativity, September 8, is the annual feast or wake. It consists of a chancel, body, and north and south aisles. The tower is high and large, containing six bells, a clock, and chimes. There are no very interesting memorials within the church. The epitaphs are recorded in the new edition of Hutchins's "History of Dorsetshire," vol. i., in which work a full account of this extensive parish may be found.

Yours, etc., N. R. S.

Portisham.

[1803, *Part I., p.* 497.]

The enclosed drawing, which represents the south side of Portisham Church, in the county of Dorset, was presented to me a short time ago; and, thinking you might possibly deem it worth engraving, I have transmitted it to you.

Having never been in Dorsetshire, I have to regret the impossibility of accompanying the drawing with an original description. I had therefore recourse to Hutchins, from whose history of the county the following account is principally extracted.

Portisham, or, as it is vulgarly called, Possam, is situated in a valley seven miles from Dorchester and two from Abbotsbury, in the hundred of Uggescombe. It was given by Canute to Orcus, who at his death bestowed it on the monastery of Abbotsbury. At the dissolution the manor and rectory were granted to William Paulet, Lord St. John. The church is a handsome ancient fabric, consisting of a nave, chancel, and two side aisles, which extend only from the chancel to the porch. At the west end is a lofty square tower, ornamented

with battlements and pinnacles, and containing three bells. The living is a vicarage, worth about £70 per annum, in the patronage of Joseph Hardy, Esq., and has a parsonage adjoining the church.

This parish contains an ancient cromlech, called by the vulgar Hell-stone. In the year 1768, in digging the foundation of a granary, an ancient pair of brazen snuffers, weighing six ounces, was found; and in the year 1750, a curious old ring was discovered in a garden, both of which are engraved in Hutchins. H. S.

Portland.

[1811, *Part I., p.* 217.]

The new lighthouse at Portland, of which I enclose a view (see Plate II.), was built by William Johns, of Weymouth. It is 20 feet in diameter at the base, is built conical, upon a circular plan, so that it is only 10 feet diameter at the top, besides the projection of the cornice, which is 2 feet. The height of this building from its base is 63 feet, and is built of Portland stone. From the south it has a grand and pleasing effect, and bespeaks the taste of the worthy founders thereof, as well as the builder. The doors and windows are done in the Gothic style, and there is an iron balustrade round the top of it, on the outside, or the cornice. In the inside there is a geometrical staircase, the steps of Portland stone, with an iron rail and banisters; so that it is safe and easy to ascend to the top, where a very curious apparatus is fixed to make the light.

The use of this edifice is to conduct ships through a very dangerous navigation (Portland Race), and to avoid the Shambles, which it will not fail to do if they adhere to the sailing rules given for that purpose. In short, the idea of its usefulness and construction demonstrate the philanthropy and beneficence of the Corporation of Trinity House. Towards the south, over the doorway, there is written on marble the following inscription:

"For the direction and comfort of Navigators; for the benefit and security of Commerce; and for a lasting memorial of British Hospitality to all Nations; this Lighthouse was erected by the antient Corporation of Trinity House, of Deptford Stroud, in 1789. Distance from the cliff 1608 feet."

Yours, etc., M. Green.

Pulham.

[1813, *Part II., p.* 113.]

With this you will receive a view of King Stagg Bridge, in the parish of Pulham, co. Dorset (see Plate II.), so called from the following occurrence in a royal hunt, as narrated by Coker, the ancient historian of Dorsetshire:

"King Henry III. having disported himself in the forest of Blakemore, he spared one beautiful and goodly white hart, which afterwards Sir Thomas de la Linde, a neighbour gentleman of ancient descent

and special note, with his companions pursuing, killed at this place. The king took so great indignation against him, that he not only punished them with imprisonment, and a grievous fine of money, but taxed their lands, the owners of which yearly ever since until this day pay a round sum of money, by way of amercement, into the Exchequer, called White Hart Silver, in memory of which this county needeth no better remembrance than the annual payment; and the forest for some time lost its antient name, and was called the Forest of White Hart."

Yours, etc., T. R.

Puncknowle.

[1835, *Part II., pp.* 38-40.]

I wonder Hutchins, in describing the parish of Puncknowle, near Bridport, in Dorsetshire, said so little of the mansion-house. I had much gratification from inspecting it.

It stands on a knoll or eminence close to the church, and is a large building, of two distinct eras, somewhat in the form of the letter T: the more ancient part, or that which constituted the original house, forming the body of the letter; and a less ancient building, erected by the Napier family about the middle of the seventeenth century, and represented by my woodcut, making its head. These two parts are now separated, the former being inhabited by the occupier of the farm, and the latter being retained by Miss Frome, sister of the Rev. G. C. Frome, the present possessor of the manor. One of the upper rooms of this building is called the Painted Room, different subjects being painted in oil on the panels of the wainscoting—perhaps something like, though of a less ancient character, the fresco paintings at Grove House, Woodford, described by A. J. K. in the *Gentleman's Magazine* for November, 1833. The paintings are executed by a masterly though hasty pencil, and represent castles, quays, sea pieces, landscapes, and other subjects of a character which induces me to refer them to the hand of a Dutch artist. The subject of one of them is Moses taken from the bulrushes, and that of another, I think, is the Tor Hill at Glastonbury; but perhaps the eye of a traveller might recognise several objects of Continental scenery in the others. The panels of the drawing-room (lighted by the upper window on the right hand in the woodcut) are also painted, each bearing a head or mask, of which I have engraved a specimen.

The older part of the house now claims little attention from the antiquary, unless for its massy architecture and its old hall wainscoted with oak. To the north side of the house, however, is attached a square projecting building, with an upper room, having a floor of square bricks, and once lighted by two round holes cut in square

blocks of stone, which are worked into the side walls; and the tradition of the place states that it was a place of defence in the Cromwellian wars, and that the round holes were embrasures for cannon. This, however, could not be the case, as a stone in the front wall bears the inscription, "N.—R.A.K.—1663," showing that it was not built till two or three years after Cromwell's death. The mansion, moreover, was evidently never fortified; and that this particular portion was not built for defence is clear from the character of its masonry. Wood was carefully excluded in its construction, and I consider it to have been a malt-kiln.

In the churchyard is a cross, of which I send you an engraving.

The church is a small building, consisting of a nave and chancel, parted by a circular arch; a small south transept, rebuilt or built about 1600 by the inhabitants of Bexington, an adjoining hamlet; and a low square tower.

In the transept is a mural monument to William Napier, Esq., above the cornice of which are the arms of Napier, and on the frieze is this inscription:

"Gulielmus Napier, armiger, nuper hujus ecclesiæ patronus."

Below this, on a tablet, is a fine old brass representing the gentleman kneeling at a desk in prayer, with the following inscription in black letter beneath him:

"Here lyeth William Napper, brother unto S^r^ Robert Napper, knyght, who after xvi yeres travell in forayne landes, married Anne Shelton, the daughter of William Shelton, of Onger parke in Essex, esquier, by whom he had vi sonnes; and now his sole beynge unto God, his bodye here resteth in Jesu Christ, beynge of the age of yeres, deceased the daye of Anno Domini 16 ."

From the blanks for this gentleman's age and the time of his death it would seem that he had the brass engraved in his lifetime, and that his executors or relations, with unbecoming inattention to his wishes, left it incomplete. Under the brass we read:

"Prædictus Gulielmus Napper presentavit Gulielmum Carter, cler. ad hanc rectoriam xxv die Junii, Anno Domini 1597, legavit et x libras, in usum perpetuum pauperum ibidem."

A mural monument in the nave, with a circular pediment on two Corinthian pillars, was erected by Sir Robert Napier, in 1691, in memory of his father, his mother Ann, and his mother-in-law Catharine.

Near this monument is another, on a tablet under a circular pediment, for Sir Robert Napier, who died in 1700, having on the top the arms of Napier, with the motto, "Major Providentia Fato"; and underneath this odd though humble and Christianly inscription:

ΣΚΙΑΣ ΟΝΑΡ ΑΝΘΡΩΠΟΣ.

NON MAGNA LOQUIMUR SED VIVIMUS.

"Reader, when thou hast done all that thou canst, thou art but an unprofitable servant. Therefore this marble affords no room for fulsome flattery or vaine praise.

S^r R. N."

"Johannes Hamiltonus, Scoto-Britannus, fecit."

Sir C. Napier sold the Puncknowle estate to Wm. Clutterbuck, Esq., whose daughter Arundel married the Rev. Geo. Frome. He left two sons: George, the late rector of Puncknowle and lord of the manor, and Robert. Robert (not George, as stated by Hutchins) married Jane, sister to Mr. Butler, and had three children; George Clutterbuck, Arundel Mary and Emilia (now deceased). George Clutterbuck Frome, now rector of Puncknowle, and owner of the manor, married Mary Sophia, daughter of E. M. Pleydell, of Whatcombe House, Dorset, now deceased, by whom he has issue two daughters, Mary Sophia and Elizabetha Arundel, now minors.

W. Barnes.

Shaftesbury.

[1817, *Part I., p.* 209.]

Having obtained permission from John Dyneley, Esq., the proprietor of the site of the late Abbey of Shaftesbury, to make any searches I might think proper, I employed a workman to dig there, and at the depth of about six feet from the surface, came to the floor (as I apprehend) of the Conventual Church. It is composed of what is called Roman tile, having gryphons, dragons, greyhounds, and other animals, burnt in the bricks or tiles, interspersed with the arms of Stourton and Bonham in painted shields, similarly burnt in, surrounded in each case with a border. The bricks or tiles are about four inches square, and I send you a drawing of one (see Plate II., fig. 1), having the arms of Bonham, done, as I suppose, when the Abbess Bonham presided—her abbacy commenced in 1462; she succeeded the Abbess Stourton. I met in the search with many mutilated monuments, chiefly of Purbeck marble; a drawing also of one of these I send you (see Fig. 2). It seems as if those into whose hands the abbey materials fell were anxious that the names of the dead should be concealed, as the face of the figure is destroyed, as well as the legend which once surrounded it. I have met with several other monuments, but not a single one with an inscription. Remains of the billety mouldings of massive pillars, of the Purbeck slender marble shafts, everywhere dispersed under ground, convince me, that this once grand pile of buildings was composed of Saxon, Norman, and the modern architecture or pointed arch.

Ch. Bowles.

Sherborne.

[1818, *Part I., p.* 201.]

I send you an etching of an ancient building, called the New Inn, situate on the Green in the town of Sherborne, in Dorsetshire. It is said to have been built by Peter Ramsam, Abbot of Sherborne from 1475 to 1504.

In form it resembles most of our ancient inns, round a square yard or court, with an open gallery and balustrade running round the whole. It has been lately sold by Mr. Bastard, grandson of Mr. Bastard, the architect, to Mr. J. Woolcot, proprietor of the London and Exeter waggons, who resides in the part next the street; the rest is fitted up as warehouses, stables, etc.

Yours, etc., J. B. K.

[1818, *Part II., p.* 497.]

As you have obliged me by inserting in your Magazine for March last (p. 201) an etching of the New Inn at Sherborne, Dorsetshire, I am emboldened to request you to present to your readers the accompanying representation (see Plate II.) of another very ancient building at the same place.

It formerly belonged to the Durnford family, and is now inhabited by Mr. Beale, master of the Bristol and Weymouth waggons.

There are various traditions and conjectures concerning the purposes for which it was designed. By some it has been supposed to have been a court-house and prison belonging to the Forest of Blakemore; by others, the treasury of the abbey. I am inclined to think, from the internal appearance, that it was a hospital, or religious house.

The parapet wall on the outside towards the street is ornamented with quatrefoils (without shields), in the same manner as the walls round the leads on the east end of Sherborne Church. Under a bay-window is the figure of an angel holding a shield charged with three spears—not spear-heads or mitres, as conjectured by Mr. Hutchins, in the first edition of his "History of Dorsetshire."

Yours, etc., T. R. K.

[1819, *Part II., p.* 209.]

In addition to other ancient buildings in the town of Sherborne, co. Dorset, which you have occasionally given in your magazine, I send you a view of a building, now known by the name of the Abbey House, from the accurate pencil of Mr. J. C. Buckler (see Plate II.). It bears the tradition of having been the kitchen of the monastery; but neither this, nor the story of the buildings here represented having been erected since the Reformation out of the ruins of the abbey, merit notice. Doubtless they are portions of the monastic edifices, from their situation on the north side of the cloister, and the handsome architecture of which they are composed.

The buildings shown in the annexed engraving, though irregular, consist of a centre and two wings, of which the most western is the largest and grandest, having a beautiful door under a large window; adjoining which, and projecting from one angle of the wing, is a long octagonal tower, terminating with a cornice and grotesque figures at all the angles. The centre has two tiers of square windows, and the corresponding wing is unornamented. Some fragments of ancient sculpture have been fixed in the walls of the building, representing, among others, a ram, a holy lamb, an owl flying, and a figure sitting as writing, with a bird flying to its ear.

Yours, etc., J. K. M.

[1842, *Part I., pp.* 153-156.]

The collegiate (and once cathedral) church of Sherborne was almost entirely destroyed by fire in 1436, and shortly after rebuilt in its present handsome form, described by the historian of Dorsetshire as the largest and best in that county. Leland has given a full and remarkable account of the circumstances attendant upon the occurrence above mentioned. He says:

"The body of the abbay chirch, dedicate to our Lady, servid ontille a hunderith yeres syns, for the chife paroche chirch of the town. This was the cause of the abolition of the paroch chirch there. The monkes and the tounes-men felle at variaunce, by cause the tounes-men tooke privilege to use the sacrament of baptisme in the chapelle of Al-halowes. Wherapon, one Walter Gallor, a stoute bocher, dwelling yn Shirburn, defacid clene the font-stone, and after, the variaunce growing to a playne seditione, and the tounes-menne, by the meanes of an Erle of Huntendune, lying yn those quarters, and taking the tounes-mennes' part, and the Bishop of Saresbyri the monkes' part, a preste of Al-halowis shot a shaft with fier into the toppe of that part of S. Marye chirch, that devidid the est part, that the monkes usid, from that the tounes-men usid; and this partition chauncing at that tyme to be thakkid yn, the rofe was sette a fier, and consequently al the hole chirch, the lede and belles melting, was defacid. Then Bradeford abbate of Shirburn persecutid this injurie, and the tounes menne were forced to contribute to the reedifiyng of this chirch. But after thys tyme, Al-Halowes chirch, and not S. Maryes, was used for the paroche chirch. Al the este parte of S. Mary chirch was reedified in abbate Bradefordes tyme, saving a chapelle of our Lady, an olde peace of work that the fier came not to, by reason that it was of an older building.—Peter Ramesunne, next abbate saving one to Bradforde, buildid *a fundamentis* al the west part of S. Marie Chirch, as appears by his name and rebus in several places.—Ramesunne, abbate, sette a chapelle caullid our Lady of Bowe harde to the south side of the old Lady Chapelle."

In a note at the beginning of his "Itinerary," vol. ii., he says:

"John Samme [f. Saunders], abbate, did build the este part of the abbay chirch, and Peter Ramessun, abbate there, builded the W. part of the same chirch not many yeres syns."

The fire occurred between the years 1436 and 1446. At the latter date a patent was granted, 24 Hen. VI. (*De choro & campanili hujus monasterii per subitum incendium combustis*); and the narrative of Leland of the transactions which led to the catastrophe is confirmed by an ordination made by the bishop in the former year, between the abbot and convent of Sherborne and the parishioners, from which it appears that the monks complained that, though there had been in the body of the church in the monastery from its foundation a baptismal font, in which the infants of Sherborne parish were commonly baptized, yet Richard Fowle, Thomas Draper, John Toker, Walter Paskeley, John Ashley, and other their confederates erected another new font in the lower part of the church, where the inhabitants used to hear divine service, on pretence of the bells ringing to matins, and of the straight entrance of the door in the wall [*murus intermediatus*] between the place of the parishioners and the body of the church. At the procession to the font at Easter and Pentecost a contention arose between the abbot and monks and the townsmen. The monks desiring that the font might be removed to the ancient place, no one opposed it, and proclamation being made for that purpose, the bishop ordered the bell to be rung to matins after the sixth hour, according to the abbey clock, the font to be replaced in the ancient place, the door and entrance for the procession of the parishioners to the font to be enlarged, and a partition [*clausus intermedius*] to be made in the nave near the choir, that there might be a distinct separation between the monks and the parishioners. Dated January 8, 1436, 14 Henry VI. The enforcing of this order is supposed to have occasioned the riot which ended in burning the church.

Notwithstanding the fire, and the consequent re-edification which it rendered necessary, considerable portions of the original structure were preserved, and are worked up into the present fabric. The enormous pillars and semicircular arches which support the tower, and the narrow gallery round the lantern or inside of the tower, immediately below the present bell-loft, are of Norman architecture, probably erected by Roger, third bishop of Sarum, who contributed very largely to the abbey, and first placed it under its own abbots. A beautiful porch on the south side of the church, which is noticed by Leland as "an antique peace of work, and not defaced with fire, because it stood with a far lower roof than the body of the chirch did," is of the same period, with zigzag mouldings; as are also interlaced semicircular arches in the south wall of the chapels on the north side of the chancel. In the walls of the north and south transepts are some small fragments of a similar style. A large lancet window, at the east end of the chapel north of the chancel, with pro-

jecting insulated pilasters of Purbeck marble, is probably of the same age with Salisbury cathedral. To the same or the immediately subsequent age may be ascribed the chapel of Our Lady at the east end of the church, a part of which now forms the centre of the house inhabited by the upper master of the grammar school.

The whole of the body of the church, with the side-aisles, was either entirely rebuilt or new modelled in the Perpendicular style by Abbot Bradforde and his two immediate successors. The panelling, which forms one of the most striking marks of the Perpendicular style, covers the piers (which are without columns), and is extended quite to the point of the arches. One of them is represented in the "Glossary of Architecture," Plate 6, Arches. The part of the church east of the tower is built with Hamdon Hill stone, and in a much more elegant and expensive manner than the rest of the church. This part consists of a centre, two side aisles, and an eastern aisle behind the altar. The centre (now the chancel, formerly the choir for the monks) is supported by three rather obtusely pointed arches on each side, over which are as many large windows, with two stories of mullions, finishing in a very rich tracery. The east window, which fills up the whole space above the altar from the roof of the east aisle to the stone roof of the church, is in a similar style. The piers between the windows on each side are supported by light flying buttresses stretching over the side-aisles.

From various circumstances it appears probable that the building of the east end of the church had been begun by the predecessors of Abbot Bradforde. The pillars, when the thick coat of ochre and lime has been accidentally removed, show evident marks of their having been standing at the time of the fire; and if we suppose that it was intended to rebuild the whole in a similar style, this will account for the demolition of the arch and stone gallery on the east side of the tower. It is suggested in the "History of Dorsetshire" that Abbot Bruning, probably of the Melbury family, had begun to rebuild his church under the patronage of his powerful relations Sir Humphrey Stafford and John Stafford, Bishop of Bath and Wells and Archbishop of Canterbury, and that the fire was occasioned by a temporary covering thrown over some part of the unfinished work; for (it is added) it can hardly be imagined that the church belonging to so opulent an establishment, and under the immediate patronage of the Bishop of Sarum, could have been "thakkid in the roof," as described by Leland.* After the fire and the death of Bruning, which happened about the same time, it might be found expedient to adopt a less expensive plan than was at first intended; and therefore

* Leland, however, does not say that the church was thatched, but the partition "thakkid yn," and that the roof was thence ignited. Such we conceive to be the true construction of the passage, though in the "History of Dorsetshire" it was printed differently.

the three remaining sides of the tower were left standing, and the whole building progressively finished by Bradforde and his successors in the style it now remains.

The tower was certainly a part of the ancient church erected by, or about the time of, Bishop Roger. It is said to be upwards of 150 feet high, and the upper part, which forms the bell-loft, appears to have been erected since the fire: it is built with stone from Sherborne quarries, and the masonry is by no means good.

The tower appears to have been originally supported by four Norman arches, resting upon vast pillars with rude palm-leaf capitals. Above these arches, round the lantern or inside of the tower, was a tier of Norman arches resting upon short heavy pillars, which formed a narrow vaulted gallery, open to the church. The main pillars on the eastern side, with a low gallery above it, were either taken down before, or destroyed at the time of, the fire. The view of the gallery and tier of Norman pillars in front is now intercepted from below by a stone roof erected by Ramsam or Bradforde. The span of the arches which support the tower is over the nave 32 feet, and over the transepts 30 feet.

All the west end of the church, except the porch, has been rebuilt since the fire; the south aisle probably by Abbot Saunders, and the nave and north aisle undoubtedly by Abbot Ramsam, the initial of whose Christian name, and his rebus, a text P enclosing a ram and crosier, are carved in many places upon the pillars, arches, and roof of this part of this church. In the angle on the south side of the great west door is the figure of a ram holding a scroll with the words Peter Ramsam. In the opposite angle, on the north side, is a similar figure, with a scroll inscribed, Disce pati vincit qui patitur. These scrolls, with the arms of Cardinal Moreton as Archbishop of Canterbury, who died 1500; initials of Bishop Langton, who survived the archbishop only a few months; and the initials of Henry VII. and his queen, H E, connected with a lover's knot, fix the date of this part of the building to the beginning of their reign. The whole is of the latest period of Gothic architecture. The two side-aisles are separated from the nave by five very sharply-pointed arches, above which on each side are the same number of windows, with mullions and tracery similar to, and undoubtedly designed to answer, those in the windows in the east end, but of course narrower, in consequence of the pointed form of the arch. The ornaments and crockets in each exactly correspond. The west end of the church is built chiefly with stone from quarries on the north side of the town, intermixed with some from Hamdon Hill.

The west end of the north aisle is still called the *dark* aisle, from having formerly had no windows. On the west side of the north transept the buildings over the south walk of the cloister abutted against and were of the same height with, the aisle.

The chancel was formerly separated from the aisles by a handsome panelled screen of Hamdon Hill stone. A part of this only remains entire, under the first arch on the north side of the altar; the rest, except the facing under the first arch on the south side, appears to have been taken down when the church was rendered parochial upon the dissolution of the abbey, but afterwards replaced by a low brick wall of very indifferent masonry. Against the inside of this screen, under the arches nearest the tower, the stalls of the monks were originally placed. They were of oak, beautifully carved and ornamented with a variety of devices and grotesque figures, some of which are represented in a plate of the "History of Dorsetshire."

In the chancel is an unmeaning heavy altar-piece of Norway oak, 32 feet broad and of a proportionable height, occupying the whole space from the floor to the bottom of the fine east window. It composes a pediment supported by four fluted pillars of the Corinthian order, and was the gift of William Lord Digby during the last century. Behind the altar is a vacant space or passage 15 feet broad, which was probably an entrance into or part of the Lady Chapel, much of which is built into the schoolhouse.

The whole church, except the south transept and the chapel on the north of the chancel, is vaulted with stone. The tracery of the roof, particularly in the part erected by Ramsam, has fretwork tracery, diverging like a fan from the top of the pillars between the side windows, and richly ornamented with vine-leaves and flowers. Upon the three keystones of the arches of the choir are the arms of Stafford; and a great variety of shields and devices occur at the different intersections of the fretwork, which are described and delineated in the "History of Dorsetshire."

The font in Sherborne Church was singular if, as is stated, it was formerly ornamented with brass plates. It is octagonal, of Purbeck stone. Upon five sides, within quatrefoils, were the brass plates, now removed; the other sides are plain, and appear to have been formerly placed against a wall.

The tenor or largest bell is said to weigh 60,000 pounds, and to have been brought from Tournay, and given by Cardinal Wolsey, who was once Rector of Limington, in Somersetshire, about eight miles from Sherborne. It was new cast 1670, and on it is this inscription:

"BY WOOLSEY'S GIFT, I MEASURE TIME FOR ALL,
TO MIRTH, TO GRIEF, TO CHURCH, I SERVE TO CALL."

Upon the fire-bell is this motto:

"I. W. I. C. 1652.
Lord, quench this furious flame;
Arise, run, help, put out the same."

The ruins at the west end of the church mark the site of the ancient parish church, dedicated to Allhallows. Leland says: "All

Hallowes paroch church was pulled down a late, and the paroch church made in our Lady chapel at the abbay." Some curious extracts from the churchwardens' account relative to the sale of the materials of their old church, and the purchase of the conventual church, will be seen in the "History of Dorsetshire," vol. iv., p. 117. The church of Allhallows appears to have consisted of three aisles, with a vaulted roof supported by six pillars on each side. A part of the north wall, as high as the bottom of the windows, still remains as the boundary of the churchyard.

A south-east view of this church, drawn and etched by J. Buckler, F.S.A., and finished by Hall, was published by subscription in February, 1803. Mr. Buckler at the same time made a drawing of the south-west, taking in the ruins at the west end, of which the accompanying plate is a reproduced copy.

Silton.

[1833, *Part I.*, *pp.* 497, 498.]

I lately visited the little church of Silton, in Dorsetshire. It stands on an eminence, at the foot of which runs a very small stream, and consists of a nave, south aisle, and chancel; with a low square tower at the west end, a porch on the south side, and a vestry room at the north-east corner. Against the south wall of the chancel is a handsome monument, put up to the memory of Judge Wyndham, by his executors, Sir George Strode, knight, serjeant-at-law, and his brother, Thomas Strode, serjeant-at-law, by the judge's own "will and desire."

This monument (of which I have etched and sent you an outline) is executed by a masterly hand, and represents the judge as standing in his robes, holding in his right hand a roll, and in the other a bag of papers. At his feet sit his daughters (?) weeping; the one with a sand-glass in her hand, and the other with a skull. These figures are under an arched canopy supported by wreathed columns, at the bases of which are two flaming urns, and against their capitals two cherubim with folded wings; over and under which are hanging wreaths of flowers. On the base of the monument, between the emblems of Justice (the sword and balance), is the following inscription:

"Here resteth the body of Sir Hugh Wyndham, Kt. late one of the Justices of the Court of Common Pleas at Westminster (under King Charles the Second) for 13 years.

"He was the eighth son of Sir John Wyndham, of Orchard Wyndham, in y^e^ county of Somerset, Kt. He dyed in his circuit at Norwich, y^e^ 27th of July, in y^e^ year of our Lord God 1684, and in the 82d year of his age. He had three wives. Jane, his first wife, was the daughter of Sir Thomas Wodehouse of Kimberly, in y^e^ county of Norfolk, Baronet. She also lyeth here interred. By whom he had two sons, viz. John and Hugh, and three daughters, viz. Blanch, Joan, and Rachel.

John, Hugh, and Joan dyed young. Hugh lyeth here interred. Blanch was married unto Sir Nathaniel Napier, of Moore Critchell in this county, Baronet; and Rachel was married unto John Earl of Bristol, of Sherborne in this county.

"Elizabeth, his second wife (who also lyeth here interred) was the widow of Sir Henry Berkly, of Wymondham, in ye county of Leicester, Baronet; and one of ye daughters of Sir William Minn, of Woodcot, in ye county of Surrey.

"Catherine, his 3rd wife (who survived him), was ye widow of Sir Edward Hooper, of Boveridge in this county, Kt. and one of the daughters of Thomas Fleming of Stoneham in the county of Southampton, Esq.

"By his two last wives he had not issue."

Hutchins, the historian of Dorsetshire, states that Sir Hugh Wyndham purchased the manor of Silton about the time of the Restoration. On the south side of the church stood the Judge's mansion, upon the site of which is now a farmhouse; but a neighbour of mine, who lived in the old house in his boyhood, remembers it as containing some fine rooms lined with carved oak wainscot, and some of the family furniture, such as silk-hangings and bedsteads. In a field, a little below the church, is a very old oak, called "Wyndham's Oak," in which tradition says the Judge had a seat, traces of which were lately to be seen. It is said also that he had a fish-pond in the little stream at the bottom of the hill.

The vestry room, which is built with the green sandstone of the neighbourhood, is less ancient than the church, and contains nothing worth notice but its groined roof; the pattern of which I have cut on wood, and sent you.

Four fan-work groins spring from bosses in the four corners of the room, each comprehending a quarter of a circle, and having a radius at the top equal to half the width of the wall. In the flat space included between their arcs at the top is inscribed a circle, comprehending four smaller ones, quatrefoiled; the spaces between the circumferences being worked into trefoils or quatrefoils, according to the angles.

The porch is ancient, but plain, excepting that the spandril spaces above the arch are carved in flower-work.

The base of the font, which I have also cut on wood, is of a darker stone, and of a more ancient character than the body; which latter, I think, from a likeness of its tracery to a moulding on the Wyndham monument, was renewed when that piece of sculpture was put up.

Besides the inscription to Dorothy Morin, printed by Hutchins, there is the following:

"In memory of Benjamin Suter, gent. who died March 30, A.D. 1750, in the 60th year of his age.

"Albinus Martin, hæres gratissimus constitutus avunculi optimi beneficentissimi, Memoriæ S. hoc marmor exiguum p."

In the churchyard is this odd epitaph, in Roman capitals:

"Here lies a piece
Of Christ, a star in dust,

A vein of gold, a China
Dish, that must
Be used in heaven when
Christ shall feast the just.

Being on that pious woman Joan, y^e^ wife of Robert Nation, who departed this life the 28 of Nov. 1686, in the 29th year of her age."

Yours, etc., W. BARNES.

Stalbridge.

[1834, *Part I.*, *pp.* 510-512.]

I send you a woodcut of the ancient sculptured cross at Stalbridge in Dorsetshire; which, though a description and engraving of it are given in Hutchins's "Dorset," may to most of your readers be an unknown object. It stands in the middle of the town, and, including the base and steps, is about 30 feet high. The figures sculptured on it were much defaced when Hutchins inspected them, and they are now, I think, more so. The steps, of which there are three flights, are octagonal, and upon them stands the base, which is square, having the upper halves of its angles worked into square columns, and its faces adorned with subjects in low relief, now indistinct, though Hutchins thought one of them was the Resurrection.

The shaft is about 12 feet high, and for about three-fourths of its height square, the angles being carved into slender columns with finial heads, above which the corners are cut down so as to make the top of the shaft octagonal. The front face of the shaft bears a defaced figure under a tabernacled arch; and Hutchins states it to be our Saviour with the lamb at His feet. The top of the shaft widens into an octagonal head, bearing on four of its sides as many coats of arms, one of which Hutchins thought bore a chevron or fess between three roses or escallops. Above this member is a square block, having its faces worked into tabernacled niches, with corner and division columns and arches running up into finials. The niches on the east and west faces bear the crucifix with the Virgin and St. John. On the last described block is a smaller one somewhat like it, ending in a finial, upon which was once a cross. The whole structure is one of rich workmanship and fine symmetry, and superior to most objects of the kind. W. BARNES.

[1832, *Part II.*, *p.* 216.]

I send you a woodcut of the obelisk put up by Sir James Thornhill, the painter, at Thornhill House in Dorsetshire, in honour of his patron, King George II.

Thornhill House, which was built by the painter himself, stands on high ground near Stalbridge, in the vale of Blackmoor, over which it has a fine prospect. It had originally a picture gallery or painting room extending through its whole length (I believe about 100 feet); but as it occasioned a scarcity of habitable rooms, the present owner

of the property, W. Boucher, Esq., has converted it into two splendid apartments.

The obelisk stands in a field to the north of the house, and is a conspicuous object in the neighbourhood, where it is called "Thornhill Spire." On a marble tablet fixed in its north side is (as I read it) the following inscription:

IN HON. DOM. AVGVSTAE XI. D. OCTOB. CICDCCXXVII. DIE INAVGVRANDIS SS. PP. GEORGIO II. ET CAROLINAE MAG. BRITAN. FRAN. ET. HIBERN. R. ET R. SOLENNITER DICAT JACOBVS THORNHILL EQVES. D. S. P. C.

It used to be exposed to daily injury from cattle; but Mr. Boucher, willing to preserve so interesting and picturely an object, has enclosed it by a neat iron railing. W. BARNES.

East Stower.

[1841, *Part I., p.* 152.]

An antiquarian friend having lately lent me a drawing of Fielding's house at East Stower in this county, I have cut a block of it, and beg leave to place it at your service.

This venerable old house, which was the family mansion of an estate of something more than £200 a year, and in which Fielding is supposed to have written his "Joseph Andrews," came into his possession on the death of his mother in the year 1718, though he did not occupy it very long, as he seems to have lived too much in the style of the hunting squire, whose friends made poor Parson Adams the butt of their practical jokes, and in less than three years spent nearly the whole of his patrimony in hounds, horses and entertainments.

In the south front of the house, about 100 yards off, was the parish church, and behind it, in the courtyard, a locust tree (Robinia pseud. acacia, Linn. fulse, or common acacia), planted by Fielding, the body of which (in 1813) was 8 feet high, and 10 feet 6 inches in circumference. It is engraved in Hutchins's "History of Dorset," second edition, ii., 211.

The locust tree was cut down about five years since, when the old house was removed for a new one, which was erected on or near its site.

Fielding's parlour, adorned with the prints of twelve Cæsars on horseback on pedestals, was in Hutchins's time a kitchen, and the antiquity of the house was shown by the old carving in its hall, and its oriel window and gothic porch.

The late Charles Bowles, Esq., of Shaftesbury, collected a traditionary account of the family of Fielding, and traced the Stower estate from it to that of the Hinxmans, its present owners; but I am told that his papers were removed after his death to the rooms of some gentleman in the Temple, where they were soon afterwards burnt.

Fielding's parents brought him young to Stower, but his three sisters and a brother Edmund were born there.

Sturminster Newton.

[1833, *Part I., p.* 583.]

The Church of Sturminster Newton in Dorsetshire having been within these few years almost wholly rebuilt, I have sent you a wood-cut of the old building from a sketch I made of it before it was pulled down. It was built by John Selwood, Abbot of Glastonbury, about 14—, and stood on high ground by the side of the river Stour; but a church must have existed there long before that was erected, as it gave name to the place Stourminster, the church by the Stour.

Selwood's Church consisted of a nave, north aisle, two transepts (the south one, however, represented in the engraving, being larger than that on the north), a low square tower with five bells, and a rather large choir, with a roof of open ribbed work painted and gilt.

The nave was ceiled, and had at the west end two galleries; one for the congregation, and another above it for the singers. The window over the high altar was a lofty one of five lights (walled up at the bottom when I last saw it), and two other large ones lighted the transept, one at the side, and the other at the end.

The walls having yielded in some parts, and the church having shown other symptoms of instability, it was thought hardly safe to perform public worship in it any longer; and the Rev. T. L. Fox (the rector, I believe), pulled down nearly the whole of it, excepting the tower, and rebuilt it at his own cost. The foundation stone of the new building was laid on April 27, 1825, and it was opened for divine service on September 28, 1827. The aisles are wider and longer than those of the old church; the tower has been raised, and is finished with a band of tracery and a battlement; and a chancel is added to each side of the choir, which is now lighted by a window of stained glass, and enriched by a chequered floor of black and white marble. . . .

The graves are levelled, and the headstones laid flat; and the churchyard is enclosed by iron railing, each bar of which ends with a knob in the shape of a mitre. Yours, etc., W. Barnes.

Swanwich.

[1829, *Part II., pp.* 210, 211.]

Swanwich, or Swanage, as it is sometimes written and usually pronounced, is a large and populous village, situated on a very low spot at the south-eastern extremity of the Isle of Purbeck, near the margin of a bay to which it gives name. The houses are chiefly of stone, but small and low, and are disposed in one street, about a mile in length. By the population return in 1821 it appeared that there were then 307 houses and 1,607 inhabitants. Of the 317 families, 40 only were employed in agriculture, 217 in trade, manfactures or handicraft (chiefly the stone quarries), and 60 were not included in

those two classes. There are upwards of sixty quarries in the parish constantly worked. When they were originally opened is unknown but, says Hutchins, the county historian, "it is certain that the columns in Salisbury Cathedral, which were finished in 1258, and likewise the Hall at Winchester, an ancient building, are made of the stone (though not now in use) called Purbeck marble, dug near the fort at the point of land called Peverel Point, that runs into the sea, and forms one side of Swanwich Bay." Between June, 1750, and September, 1752, the trustees of Ramsgate harbour employed fifty sail of vessels in transporting hence 15,000 tons of stone.

Swanwich was anciently only a chapelry to Worth Maltravers; but was formed into a separate parish about 1500. The church (represented in Plate II.) is a spacious structure of dissimilar styles of architecture, having been enlarged at various periods. It consists of a nave, north and south aisle, chancel, and a tower containing a clock and four bells. The tower is supposed to be an earlier erection than the church, and by popular tradition is strangely said to have been "built before Christ," an assertion which, it has been remarked, "may probably mean before the conversion of the Anglo-Saxons to Christianity." It is an entire building of itself, the quoins at the south-east and north-east corners continue from the bottom to the top, as if it had originally stood alone. In comparing it with the ancient towers of Corfe Castle (which is at about 5 miles distance), the same writer observes, as an argument for its being the older building, that "though composed of the same sort of stone, this has acquired a greater degree of nitrous incrustation, and like it, the mortar is almost petrified, or turned into stone by length of time. The walls are very thick, and about 80 feet in perpendicular height. The chief entrance was through a large arch in the east side, which now serves for a passage into the church. In this side, and at about half way the height, is a large arched window. In the upper loft are four lancet windows, one on each side, besides some small apertures for the admission of light in every loft. There is no ornament of any kind, so that we may conclude it was never designed for a religious kind." As, however, many church towers have no ornament, this last argument cannot be allowed much weight.

"What may have been the original use of this building," continues the same writer, "cannot now be ascertained. It is situated near a rivulet of water, which, before the washing of such great quantities of mud on the adjacent ground, must have been a large pool, this water being called, though improperly, a lake to this day by the inhabitants. Now, as Mr. Hutchins seems at a loss how to account for the derivation of the first syllable in Swanwic, perhaps this may have been a swanery, or place for breeding of swans, when the Island of Purbeck was a royal forest, its situation and construction being suited to that purpose; and our old kings were so tenacious of their claim to these

birds, that an act was made that whoever should steal their eggs out of the nest should be imprisoned for a twelvemonth and a day, and be fined according to the King's pleasure."

The chancel of the church is large, and one-third of the length of the whole fabric. At the period of the erection of the north aisle, it was considerably abridged in width, and a part only of the old east gable being left standing, has a very singular appearance, as is shown in the view. About 1795 the church was new ceiled and pewed, and two large galleries built at the expense of about £400. The principal monuments are to the families of Cockram and Chapman. The present rector is the Rev. Thomas O. Bartlett, who was presented by John Calcraft, Esq., in 1817.

In the middle of the town street is an old building with an arched doorway on the north, near which many human bones were found in digging a saw-pit—a circumstance which gave reason to suppose that this was the original chapel when Swanwich belonged to the Church of Worth. Yours, etc., M.

Sydling.

[1800, *Part II., p.* 713.]

The annexed is a north view (Plate I.) from an original drawing of the church of Sydling St. Nicholas, in Dorsetshire, being dedicated to that saint. It is a very handsome specimen of our early church architecture, and is built of a most durable quarry stone of the country. It has an embattled tower of considerable height, containing a good peal of bells, and is covered, as are the body and chancel, with lead. The inside is remarkably neat and well-proportioned, and has a large side aisle. In the chancel are several handsome mural monuments of the family of Sir John Smith, Bart., as well as one or two old stone ones, and very ancient gravestones in the body of the church. N.

Symondsbury.

[1802, *Part I, pp.*, 422-425.]

That the stage was at some periods not very remote considered as a school of morality, we have the testimony of many respectable authors; and that the sacred mysteries of our religion used to be profanely represented upon it at others, is beyond a doubt; but I think it would shock the feelings of many, even in these licentious times, to have a collection openly proposed, and a brief read in any place of public worship for the establishment or renovation of our playhouses.

That such, however, was the fact in the licentious days of Charles II. I transmit to you a very curious and authentic proof, copied by permission of the rector from the church register of Symondsbury, Dorsetshire.

"1673, April 27. Collected by brief, for the Theatre Royal in London being burnt, the sum of two shillings."

It is authentically signed by the then curate and churchwardens; and extending as you see to a private village in Dorsetshire, there is every reason to believe it was general throughout the kingdom. We are all but too apt to encourage the thought that the times we live in are more depraved, more profligate than the preceding; and too evident proof daily arises that in some respects they seem as if they could never have been outdone. But I believe the present worthy and respectable rector of Symondsbury could not be prevailed upon by any mandate to publish in his church a requisition that might but seem to afford encouragement to vice and immorality so repugnant to the general tenor of his own blameless and exemplary conduct.

Tarrant Gunvill.

[1813, *Part II., p.* 313.]

Enclosed you will receive a view of the church and parsonage of Tarrant Gunvill, co. Dorset (see Plate I.).

The church was dedicated to St. Mary, 1503, and consists of a chancel, body, two aisles, and an embattled tower, with four pinnacles, in which are four bells. The body is raised above the aisles.

The last rector was the Rev. Edward Fleet, chaplain to the second troop of Horse Guards. He was of King's College, Cambridge; M.A., 1762; and died February 19, 1797, at Locherby, near Rumsey, the oldest clergyman in that neighbourhood, and a very singular character. He sold the advowson to University College, Oxford, and enjoyed the living for nearly fifty years afterwards.

The Master and Fellows built the handsome and substantial rectorial house, shown in the view; and in 1794 presented Francis Simpson, B.D., fellow of that College and prebendary of Bristol, who is the present incumbent.

Eastbury, a hamlet in this parish, was remarkable as the seat of the late Lord Melcombe Regis. This house was one of the grandest in the kingdom; being designed and executed by Sir John Vanbrugh about 1718, at an expense of £140,000. The gardens were very extensive and beautiful, adorned with vistas and plantations of trees. The house was dismantled about 1763, and taken down and sold piecemeal about ten years after. Views of the house and gardens may be seen in Campbell's "Vitruvius Britannicus." This mansion is celebrated by many of our eminent poets, who were here entertained by its noble owner: by Thomson, in his "Seasons"; by Young; and by Christopher Pitt, who is noticed as an inhabitant of Dorsetshire, in your Magazine for last June, p. 437. For a very satisfactory account of Lord Melcombe, I refer your readers to vol. xii. of Mr. Chalmer's edition of the "Biographical Dictionary," or to vol. iii. of the new edition of Hutchins's "Dorsetshire," where will also be found a very full account of the parish of Tarrant Gunvill. Yours, etc., B. N.

Whitechurch.

[1850, *Part I., pp.* 70, 71.]

The Church of Whitechurch Canonicorum having undergone extensive repair and restoration, was reopened by the Lord Bishop of Salisbury. This spacious and beautiful fabric, which includes a chancel, nave, and aisles, north and south transepts, vestry, porch, and western tower, opening to the nave by a lofty arch, south is in the style of the twelfth century, combining semicircular with pointed arches, enriched with beak-heads, chevron mouldings, and other ornaments of the semi-Norman period. Later styles appear in the tower and north transept, the latter of which is a beautiful specimen of the beginning of the thirteenth century, and contains a raised tomb of great antiquity, retaining traces of fresco paintings. Amongst the restorations and repairs, which have been effected under the direction of Mr. Butler, of Chichester, are the rebuilding of the north aisle, newly and substantially roofed with English oak covered with lead, and affording 100 additional sittings, the restoration of the stonework and tracery of 20 windows, some of them of very large dimensions; and the erection of a considerable number of additional sittings in solid oak. The old seating has been reduced in height, and the seats throughout the church are open. The decorative part of the restoration embraces the removal of plaster and whitewash from an open oak roof of the fifteenth century, ornamented with moulded ribs and bosses painted in red and yellow. . . . The reredos is formed of delicately carved oak panelling of great antiquity, brought from Rouen, and is richly gilt and painted. The walls of the sanctuary are powdered with golden stars and fleurs-de-lis, and the roof is covered with white and vermilion painting, in imitation of fan tracery on a blue ground with golden stars at intervals, the design being copied from the chapter-house of Exeter Cathedral. . . . Not the least interesting feature in the restoration has been the recovery of the original circular semi-Norman font, standing on a column and base of Purbeck marble and ornamented with intersecting arches in bas-relief, which had been removed from the church and broken into fragments a few years since. It now stands restored near the principal entrance to the church.

Winborne.

[1800, *Part II., pp.* 1137-1139.]

Winborne has many pretensions to the notice of the antiquary; but, I believe, has been almost neglected. Such information as a few hours' research has produced is here subjoined.

It has been usual to attribute to the Vindocladia of the Itinerary the situation of the present Winborne. Camden's authority has sanctified this conjecture, and the opinion has passed current to the

present day. However, the many corrections of his commentators prove that he was far from infallible, even where he has spoken from his own observations. It is much more probable that Vindocladia was situate at the present Badbury, which may be established on the following considerations.

It will be easily granted that, where the Romans called any place by a name not significant in their own language, they must have retained the British appellation, smoothing the asperity of the word, and adding a convenient termination for the purposes of declension.* The idle guesses of Camden make the meaning of the original British word as hopeless as it is unimportant.

A town among the ancient Britons was intended for purposes very different from modern towns. The petty states into which the island was divided seem not to have equalled the size of a modern county,† and, as they were ever quarrelling, it behoved each state to have a place of security for their wives and cattle when threatened by an invasion of their neighbours. Forests were usually chosen for this purpose; but in open districts some insulated hill was fortified for a refuge. Such was Old Sarum (Sorbiodunum), such was Badbury, and both of them were improved to Roman purposes by these conquerors. Their towns were garrisons, which collected the tribute of the neighbourhood; and as that tribute was chiefly paid in corn, many granaries must have been necessary to receive this bulky commodity.‡ Hence an immediate appearance of a town must arise in the place to which the Britons were compelled to carry their corn. Some complaints are extant, that money was sometimes extorted by the procurators (the commissaries), lest the natives should be compelled to carry their corn to distant garrisons instead of those in the neighbourhood.

If anyone expects to find the quadrangular form in all Roman earthworks, he unwarily extends the form of the legionary camp to purposes to which it is inadequate. The square was chosen only because their constant discipline thus arranged every soldier in a known place, and prevented the confusion of promiscuous encampment.§ A square is by no means adapted to permanent defence, for that a circle is much better, since nothing is weaker than an unflanked angle. Silchester and Old Sarum prove plainly enough that their town fortifications were more frequently in a circular form.

Of Badbury-rings this is a brief account. The two inner rings were

* Thus Batavia was formed from wat-awe, wet soil; Britannia probably from brat-anac, tin-country, etc.

† Cantium (Kent) was divided into four principalities; indeed, it probably included part of Sussex.

‡ It is said that 800 small decked vessels were once employed to transport corn from Britain to the legions on the German frontier.

§ At Hod Hill, near Blandford, is a complete specimen of the legionary camp in high preservation.

the repository of stores and the habitation of the garrison. The space enclosed is about 300 yards diameter; the area of course about 14 acres. Without the two inner rings another skirts around at the distance of 40 or 50 yards, leaving a space for those of the natives who chose to live under the protection of the garrison, but who could not safely be admitted to reside within its limits. The necessities of the garrison for traders and labourers must soon attract this kind of suburb around them. The outer ring is about a mile round, and, as well as the others, rather exceeds in height and steepness the ramparts of Old Sarum, which has also an inner enclosure for the garrison. The very narrow summit of the ramparts at Badbury proves that it was never walled round; nor, perhaps, was any ancient town where the foss and ramparts are double.

In the rings at Badbury are entrances, one opening on the Roman road to Old Sarum (visible in the beginning of this century *), another towards Dorchester (Durnovaria), of which some trace is still extant on the downs. Combined with this second entrance, in the outer ring is a third pointing towards Blandford, and in use to communicate with the stationary camps at Hod Hill and Shilleston, near that place. The evidence of these military roads, and many Roman coins dug up at Badbury, leave no doubt of its being the situation of the ancient Vindocladia of the Itinerary of Antoninus, whose routes are good and valid, though his military distances (like all other Roman numerals) are exceedingly mutilated by copyists.

In Saxon times this place was called Baddan-byrig, the memorial of some chieftain there buried. So usual was this cause of altering an ancient name among the Saxons, that at last the general name of every town became borough, because it so constantly ended in berig, or bury, a word derived from "berighe," to hide or cover; whence also rabbit-burrows, and the monumental hillocks called barrows. Baddan-berig is first mentioned by that name in the reign of Edward the Elder (A.D. 901), as a post occupied by that prince against his rebellious cousin-german Ethelwold, who had fortified himself at Winborne.

The Saxons have given a specimen of their constant preference of a low situation, in changing their habitation from Badbury to Winborne. Their reasons for moving were probably much the same as in after ages influenced the people of Old Sarum to descend into the plain.† Whatever was the cause, the removal must have been

* Bishop Gibson, the translator of Camden, mentions this circumstance, and the coins on the authority of a neighbouring gentleman, Mr. Anthony Ettrike.

† Thus says a contemporary writer on that occasion:

"Est tibi defectus lymphæ, sed copia cretæ,
Sævit ibi ventus, sed Philomela filet."

"Plenty of chalk, but a scarcity of water; bleak winds, and no shelter for singing birds."

It is not impossible that even the Romans left Vindocladia for Winborne, when the province became quite settled and peaceable.

very early, as in the eighth century a nunnery was founded at Winborne, which lengthened the name to Winburn-ham-minster. "Burn" still means a rivulet in the constant language of the North, and is very applicable to the brook (the Allen) which at Winborne falls into the Stour. "Ham" is as certainly home or habitation. "Minster" is an abbreviation of "monasterium," or monastery, a foundation for either male or female religious. The first syllable *Win* is of more dubious origin. *Twin*-borne, a junction of two rivers (whence Christchurch had its name *Twine*ham); or from *Whin*, which is the Saxon for a furze-bush; or an abbreviation of Winter-burn,* a common name in this county. These are not improbable guesses; though, considering that the Saxons have often retained the first syllable of the Roman name prefixed to their own tedious appellations, we may perhaps venture to assert, that it is only the first syllable of *Vin*docladia. Thus *Dor*chester, *Win*chester, and *Ring*wood, in this neighbourhood, have their first syllable from *Dur*novaria, *Ven*ta, and *Reg*num.

Previous to the year 705 (says Tanner, in his "Notitia Monastica"), in the year 713 (says Camden), Cuthburga, daughter of Kendred, sister of Ina, kings of the West Saxons, resolved to quit her husband, King of Northumbria. After a divorce, which the usual superstition of the age ascertains to have been merely on religious motives, she founded a nunnery at Winborne for her own residence in retirement. But the rude edifices of those early times were little calculated for duration, and time had probably destroyed the nunnery before the incursions of the Danes, in which, otherwise, it was doubtless demolished. An accident, however, in the succeeding century, probably gave to Winborne a much superior edifice, which still remains almost perfect.

In the year 872 (according to the Winborne inscription, but according to history in the preceding year), King Ethelred and his younger brother, Alfred, fought a successful battle against the Danes at Witchampton,† near Winborne. The king, however, was mortally wounded there, and, after languishing some days, died at Winborne. Alfred by his brother's demise became King of England, and, after attending the funeral, proceeded to extirpate the barbarous invaders with success. So far goes history, and we must have recourse to circumstantial proof to ascertain that the great Alfred was the architect of the church at Winborne. In his youth he had resided

* This name also suits the Allen, exactly the Χειμαρροος which furnishes Homer with many similes.

† Milner, in his "History of Winchester," says that Ethelred received his wound in a battle fought at Merton. But, unless there be such a place between Winborne and Salisbury, he must be wrong; for that there was the seat of war is evident, because the Danes rallied at Wilton, where they fought Alfred immediately after. Perhaps it might have been at Horton, which is adjoining to Wichampton.

some time in Italy, the most polished country in Europe at that dark period. Here he imbibed a taste for architecture, which induced him to appropriate a sixth part of his revenue to adorn his kingdom with useful and ornamental buildings. This enabled him in the course of his active reign almost to obliterate the traces of the destructive Danes.

It is certain that Shaftesbury was erected and fortified by Alfred in the year 880;* London, also, and Winchester, are recorded as objects of his improvements. Of Winborne nothing specific is recorded; but it is morally certain that, according to the superstition of the age, the burial-place of a beloved brother would be among the first essays at ornamental architecture.† In that turbulent age bulwarks were necessary; we may, therefore, be sure they were the first employment of Alfred's foreign workmen. Alfred reigned from 871 to 901. He fortified Shaftesbury in 880. Between that year and his death we may fix the structure at Winborne, as he built two or three monasteries afterwards, we may say between 880 and 890.‡

[1800, *Part II., pp.* 1225, 1226.]

With good opportunity of research, the ecclesiastical history of Winborne might probably be elucidated. I have met with little to the purpose. After the destruction of the nunnery, Alfred doubtless established some religious foundation to pray for his brother's soul. A chantry was established at Winborne by one of the Edwards,§ consisting of a dean, four prebendaries, three vicars, four deacons, five singing-men, six boys, and an organist. In Henry VIII.'s time the valuation of the house was £131 14s. per annum. As this chantry had been modified and augmented by Henry's grandmother (the munificent Margaret Beaufort), that rapacious tyrant seems to have abstained from pillaging it with the other religious houses. But in the minority of Edward VI. it was granted to Edward Lord Clinton, though with certain reservations, which still retain some appearance of choral service.

An inspection of the present building furnishes the following remarks. The architecture is very beautiful, in the most ornamental manner of the Saxons; the interior especially denotes careful execution. Tradition asserts that once a lofty spire stood on the middle tower, but that it was blown down in the year 1622.‖ It is, however,

* From an inscription seen there by William of Malmesbury.

† Alfred founded monasteries to enlighten his subjects, by introducing learned foreigners into those foundations. In a dark age the piety and learning of the monks was conspicuous; afterwards they altered for the worse.

‡ He also probably fortified Winborne, or Ethelwold, in 901, would not have chosen it as a place of defence against Alfred's son, Edward the Elder.

§ As nine Edwards have reigned in England, this information is very vague; it only ascertains it to be a royal foundation. Tanner's "Notitia Monastica."

‖ They say it was higher than Salisbury spire, a falsehood which betrays itself

very improbable that it ever fell, because in that case the battlements and pinnacles of the tower could not have escaped uninjured :* they are too perfect for any modern repair. The spire was probably taken down lest it should fall, and the materials are said to have been employed in building the western tower. No edifice was ever so much disfigured as this ancient church is by this abominable tower, in height and size a copy of the middle tower; but here the similitude terminates, and its structure stands a singular instance of obstinate bad taste, which could so build with such a model before its eyes. If the ruins of the spire had been laid in a more humble situation under foot, it might have accommodated the inhabitants with a pavement. I have heard that in an after-period the last remains of Vindocladia have been appropriated to this purpose.† If such a violation of antiquity were ever pardonable, the dirty state of Winborne would form a good plea of necessity if the quarries of Purbeck were not within a reasonable distance.

The church is remarkable for an irregular mixture of ironstone in its external structure. One must believe that when the stones were first placed this rusty appearance was latent. Exposure to the weather, perhaps, first discovered the blemish.

The north side of the church (see the plate in our last) is the most ancient. The north transept and porch are coeval with the middle tower. Over that porch, apparently, hung the bells before the west tower was made. The bells were given by the parish, and placed in the east tower. The register begins 1635.

Within the church the eye is gratified with decent whitewash and regular pews; though the information about the churchwardens who presided at that improvement had been more fitly preserved in the parish register than written over the centre arch of the church. Such pitiful ostentation violates the general aspect of antiquity. The organ appears modern, and in size well adapted to the church. Its west front has much finery, and that towards the choir was never surpassed in tawdry decoration by a gingerbread watch. It has a disgusting effect.

In the choir is the famous monument of Ethelred. It has been often renewed since the time of Alfred, and the present inscription appears quite modern. It is erroneous in calling the king Etheldred for Æthelred,‡ and has Dacorum for Danorum. This would be un-

by asserting such evident disproportion, and is, besides, refuted by the palpable incompetence of the arch over the organ to support such a mass of stone.

* Part of the battlements fell into the church.

† Another proof that Badbury was really a town; a camp produces no pavements.

‡ This king in history is called Ethered, an error arising from a custom among the Saxons of abbreviating letters. Many of his coins are thus inscribed : ÆÐERED REX ANGLO. The middle E in the word Ethered includes an L in its figure. (Anglo-rum has an awkward junction of the N and G in the same taste.

intelligible but for the old copies which are extant in Camden and other antiquaries. Opposite is an altar-tomb supporting two supine figures: John de Beaufort (in 1443), created Duke of Somerset; he died in the next year. His wife, Margaret Beauchamp, of Bletso, lies by him. This John de Beaufort was grandson of "old John of Gaunt, time-honoured Lancaster," through his mistress, Catharine Swinford, governess of his legitimate daughters. However, an Act of Parliament wiped off the stain, and the grandson of this Duke of Somerset, Henry VII., ascended the throne of England as representative of the Lancastrian family. The piety of Margaret, mother of Henry VII., built this monument over her parents, founded a free school,* and gave stability to the chantry by her posthumous patronage.

In another tomb† lies Gertrude, Marchioness of Exeter, mother of the last Courtney, Earl of Devonshire. He died at Padua in the time of Elizabeth. The Marquis of Exeter (also Earl of Devonshire), husband of the lady here interred, was unjustly beheaded by the tyrant Henry VIII. Another tomb in the church has a warrior raised on his elbow—a good piece of sculpture, and a great improvement on the stupid posture of the Beauforts in the choir. Opposite is a tedious Latin inscription on one of the Ettrikes. It says he was the *happy* husband of *two* wives!

Under the choir is a square vault supported by handsome arches. They call it a cloister! It is, in fact, an under-chapel or crypt, and has been useful in praying the dead out of purgatory. It contains a holy-water niche, and, I believe, a stone seat running round it; but the water at present in it makes it appear a reservoir for the fire-engines, and precludes entrance. It was whispered that this stagnant water prevents fouler pollutions. If so, it is pity a faculty does not appropriate it as a burial-place, and so rail up the entrances.

Under the west tower is a moon-clock—an impossible attempt at useless information.‡ And, lest this wretched tower should not be consummate in bad taste, the outside exhibits the statue of a modern sentinel, stuck up in one of the upper windows, whose employment is to strike the quarters.

Over the vestry,§ where the surplices are kept, is a library. It

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His other coins prove this fact, being written Æthelred.) At Aston, in Berkshire, this prince gave a specimen of the fashionable piety of the times. He suffered his brother Alfred (who commanded under him) to be nearly overpowered by the Danes rather than go to his assistance before prayers were finished.

* Queen Elizabeth perfected this foundation of her ancestor. It is still useful.

† Part of a brass fillet still remains around the tomb. It has part of an inscription.

‡ An almanack in an occasional frame might, indeed, be a useful appendage in a church; at least it would give better lunar information at less expense than the repair of this ingenious clock. It is intended as an orrery on the Copernican system.

§ I call it vestry, as containing the vestments; but if any other place has that name, a longer word, apodyterium, may be taken for distinction.

contains the usual lumber of church libraries, the Fathers, who repose there in ancient dust. However, there is Walton's "Polyglott," of much value; an odd volume of Venerable Bede, Camden's "Life of Elizabeth," Barnes's of Edward III. Among the rest, "Sanchez de Matrimonio" is conspicuous. This Spanish casuist has entered so minutely into his subject as to render this the most indecent book in the world. It is satirized in the latter part of "Martinus Scriblerus." The satire is almost as indecent as its object.

This library is so much neglected as to possess no tolerable catalogue. As the number of books does not appear to exceed 200, the leisure of those of the Winborne clergy who have not cure of souls might easily supply the defect.

Wotton Glanvile.

[1817, *Part II., pp.* 297, 298.]

The parish of Wotton Glanvile, Dorsetshire, receives its name, perhaps, from its woody situation, quasi Wodeton. It lies in the vale, and within the limits of the forest of Blakemore or White Hart, distant about seven miles from Sherborne, six from Cerne, and eleven from Dorchester. It contains about 2,000 acres of rich land, chiefly in pasture, and divided into dairy farms. The butter is chiefly sent by waggon weekly, in tubs, to the London market. The parish is divided into two tithings, Wooton and Newland; and into three manors, or reputed manors—Newland, Ossedshill or Osehill Green, and Wooton. The lands are all free, only a few cottages remaining in copy or leasehold.

By the return to Parliament in 1811 the parish of Wotton Glanvile contained 32 houses and 43 families (32 of whom were employed in agriculture, and 11 in trade, etc.), consisting of 88 males and 96 females; total, 184. The tithing of Newland contained 21 houses and 25 families, all employed in agriculture, consisting of 51 males and 52 females; total, 103.

The soil of the parish is remarkably favourable to the growth of timber. The hedgerows are in general thickly planted with oak and elm. The oak in particular thrives well, as it does in all the deep clays which lie at the foot of the hills which bound the southern side of the Vale of Blakemore.

The church is a neat building of one pace, which, with the chancel, is slated. Neither the body nor chancel contains anything remarkable. On the south side is the beautiful Glanvile Chapel, formerly a chantry, covered with lead, used as a burial-place to the families successively lords of one of the manors in this parish. The windows*

* Engraved in the new edition of Hutchins's "History of Dorset," vol. iii., p. 289, in which work a very full and satisfactory account of this parish may be found.

of this chapel are rich and elegant in their tracery, and appear to have been formerly glazed with painted glass, the only remains of which is a neat figure of the Virgin and some other small fragments in the east window. On each side of this window is a neatly-carved bracket for relics or images, above the site of the altar; and in the south-east angle an arched niche, containing a piscina and shelf. Since the dissolution of this chantry the font,* which is of the octagonal form, has been placed immediately before the piscina. Under the arch† which separates this chapel from the body of the church is a stone coffin with the effigy of a man in a loose dress, belted, a sword by his left side, and a lion or dog broken off at his feet; length, when perfect, about 5 feet 10 inches. From a piece of the lid being broken off, it appears that the coffin was a plain stone chest. This chapel was formerly paved with figured tiles intermixed with rows of small, neat glazed tesseræ, some of which remain, but much mutilated.

This chapel contains several monuments to the families of Williams, Every, and Henly, amongst which the two following are the most interesting:

On the top of a neat marble monument with fluted pilasters are these arms: Azure, a lion rampant, argent, crowned or, in a border of the second pellatè, impaling in chief Every, in base Williams, in surtout Every; all in a lozenge.

"To the pious memory of Dame Barbara, relict of Sir Robert Henly, late of Grange, in the County of Southampton, knt. . . ."

She has this other epitaph on the north side of the churchyard:

"Here lye the poor remains of that pious and charitable lady, Dame Barbara Henly, who departed this life the 2d of April, 1727. . . ."

Against the east window, which is now walled up, a monument has been erected for Mrs. Leigh, relict of Dr. Leigh, of Dorchester:

"Sacred to the memory of Elizabeth, wife of the Rev. William Leigh, D.D. and only daughter of William Pyle, gent. of Newport, in the Isle of Wight, after a life well spent in frequent acts of piety and benevolence, in her 84th year, and on the XXIXth day of December, MDCCLXXXIII. she at last reached the haven of rest, which had long been the object of her most fervent prayers. Dr. Leigh was son of John Leigh, esq. of North Court, in the Isle of Wight, by Anne, daughter of John Every, esq. of this place. Besides other preferments, he was rector of the parishes of Holy Trinity and St. Peter's, in the town of Dorchester, where he died the 4th day of January, in the year 1752, and was from thence removed to this Church for interment. This Monument was erected by the Rev. Robert Taunton, LL.D. grandson of Mrs. Leigh's eldest brother, John Pyle, in testimony of his respect and gratitude."

The late rector, the Rev. H. Evans, enlarged and fitted up a most convenient parsonage, erected by his predecessor, Mr. Fox, in a field

* Engraved in the new edition of Hutchins's "History of Dorset," vol. iii., p. 278.

† Engraved, *ibid.*, p. 289.

west of the church, and surrounded it with an excellent garden. It is a most desirable residence. The present rector is the Rev. Isaac Munkhouse, B.D., who is also rector of Holwell, co. Somerset.

James Dale, Esq., of Blandford, in 1804 rebuilt the mansion formerly belonging to the Williams family. This house is pleasantly situated a little north of the church, surrounded by lofty oaks and elms planted by the late Mr. Henley. Upon the lawn is a very large and beautiful evergreen oak. J. K. M.

References to previous volumes of the *Gentleman's Magazine Library* :—

Prehistoric Antiquities :—Barrows and tumuli at Agglestone, Chalbury, Deverill, Hambury Taut, Lulworth, Muckleford, Osmington Down, Piddlehinton, Poxwell Down, Purbeck, Shipton Hill, Upway Downs, Wareham, Winford Eagle; animal remains at Bridport and Swanage; earthworks at Hod Hill and Wareham; stone-circles at Winterton.—*Archæology*, part i., pp. 12, 16, 94-101, 104-106, 108, 109, 124-129, 267-269, 274.

Pits at Alspiddle; barrows at Bradford Peveril, Pimpern, Shipton, Tarent Grenvil; human remains at Fordington; stone-circles at Gorwell, Poxwell, Winterton; Kimmeridge coal at Portland; earthworks at Wareham.—*Archæology*, part ii., pp. 61-65, 160, 163, 164, 222-229, 330.

Roman Remains :—Blandford, Dorchester, Halstock, Hod Hill, Lulworth, Melbury Abbas, Preston, Radepole and Spettisbury.—*Romano-British Remains*, part i., pp. 46-64.

Anglo-Saxon Remains :—Wichampton, place of Ethelred the Elder's death; Wimborne, brass of King Ethelred the Elder. *Archæology*, part ii., pp. 279-286.

Dialect :—Local expressions—*Dialect and Wordlore*, pp. 27, 41, 42, 327.

Folklore :—Lady Cow—*Popular Superstitions*, p. 133.

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